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Devon. 8° 227.









**HISTORIC  
COLLECTIONS,  
RELATING TO THE  
MONASTERIES OF DEVON.**

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**BY THE  
REV. GEORGE OLIVER,  
OF EXETER.**

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*"Tot decora artificumque manus, tot nota sepulcra  
Totque pios cineres, una ruina premit."*

**SANAZAR, ELEG. LIB. 2. OD. 9.**

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**EXETER:  
PUBLISHED BY P. A. HANNAFORD.**

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**1841.**





TO  
THE RIGHT HONOURABLE  
**CHARLES LORD CLIFFORD,**  
BARON CLIFFORD OF CHUDLEIGH,  
THE FOLLOWING COLLECTIONS ARE,  
WITH SINCERE RESPECT  
AND A LIVELY SENSE OF GRATITUDE,  
INSCRIBED  
BY HIS LORDSHIP'S  
MOST OBLIGED AND FAITHFUL SERVANT,  
**GEORGE OLIVER.**



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## PREFACE.

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Jam nec vetustis sculpta scientiis  
Famosa moles perstat et aureis  
Inscripta Majorum sepulchris  
Funditus occubere saxa.

Humana quidquid composuit manus  
Humana rursus disjiciet.

CASIMIRI LYRICORUM, Lib. 4.

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**I**N ingenuous minds, so strong is the impression produced by the recollection of departed worth and excellence, that, by an easy association of ideas, they respect and venerate the *very places* where these memorable characters were born, where they lived, or where they gave particular proofs of talent or heroic virtue. No one can read the beginning of the third book de Oratore, without experiencing the tender enthusiasm which prompted Cicero to go and gaze at the spot where stood the immortal patriot and orator, Lucius Crassus, when he delivered his last and energetic oration—"Post Crassi interitum veniebamus in Curiam, ut vestigium illud ipsum, in quo ille postremum institisset, contueremur. O fallacem hominum spem fragilemque fortunam!!" I trust, therefore, that in a Christian country it will not be considered less laudable and innocent, if I invite the reader to shed the tear of sympathy over departed greatness, and to walk over the mouldering ruins of those venerable edifices, once the seats of literature and religious virtue, the repositories of art, the monuments of the piety and skill of our Catholic forefathers, the sanctuaries of hospitality, and the

pride and ornament of this beautiful county. I trust that my researches will be useful; and if they shall excite others to enter into my labors, and to perfect these Historical Collections, I shall think myself abundantly rewarded.

To the registers of the see of Exeter I am greatly indebted for the materials of this work. Those official records are of indisputable authority; and no one should undertake to write the ecclesiastical, or even the civil history of Devonshire or Cornwall, without having studied them thoroughly. To JOHN JONES, Esq. of Franklyn, I am proud to acknowledge my obligations for his valuable assistance; and the Right Honorable Lord CLIFFORD is entitled to my warmest thanks, for his constant encouragement, and for the unreserved use of the library at Ugbrooke.

I shall proceed to throw together some few particulars respecting the authority of the Bishop of Exeter, over the Religious within his diocese, and respecting the state of monastic learning, and the manner of electing the Abbots and Superiors. Of the architecture of the religious houses I forbear to say any thing, as the remains are so trifling. It is singular, that not one of the numerous "*conventual churches*" in Devon is now standing.

In the first place, the permission of the Diocesan was necessary, previous to the foundation of any monastic establishment. This is clear, from fol. 96—97 of Bishop Bronescombe's Register\* concerning Buckland Abbey. The regular Clergy, generally speaking, (Friars Minors not even excepted) depended on the Diocesan for faculties to absolve penitents. The Bishops had also the power of visiting the religious houses, and they appear to have considered this as a duty of primary importance; in fact, the attention which they paid to this point, contributed, above all others, to support regular discipline, and to prevent licentiousness. And from a careful inspection of the registers, I think myself justified in asserting, that the abbey of Ford, and

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\* These registers begin with the death of Bishop Blondy, December 26, 1257. Bishop Bytton's, from the year 1292 to 1306, is unfortunately lost; but the acts of the other Bishops, until the change of religion, are for the most part in the highest state of preservation.



especially the abbey of Tavistock, which attempted to throw obstacles in the way of episcopal visitations, were, both in a spiritual and a temporal point of view, the worst regulated communities in the diocese of Exeter. It appears also, from the registered acts of the Bishops, that corrodiess could not be granted without the episcopal licence, and that, in several instances, the revenues were sequestered during long vacancies, or in consequence of the improvident administration of the acting Superiors: indeed, if the Diocesans had not occasionally interfered, to preserve the property of certain monasteries, the whole must have been squandered away by the prodigality or the carelessness of the persons who were charged with its administration. Some of the Abbots had private seals, and an Abbot of Tavistock\* is charged with the most crying injustice, in signing away the property of the community.

In the registers above mentioned are several episcopal mandates, directed to different monasteries. In these, the Bishop points out the irregularities which had been discovered during the course of the visitation. They chiefly relate to breaches of regular discipline, or of the vows of poverty and obedience. Perpetual silence is strongly enforced in the dormitory, where a lamp was to be kept burning the whole of the night, as enjoined in the 22d chapter of the rule of St. Benedict. In the cloisters, rigid silence was to be observed at certain hours, "certis horis," but not perpetually, as some writers have contended. I am happy to find, that the grosser immoralities (I mean against the virtue of chastity) were very far from being common; and if it be a proof of innocence, as even Bishop Burnet acknowledges, when the Monks received pensions at the dissolution of the religious houses, we may fairly conclude, that our Devonshire communities must have been eminently virtuous; since the

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\* Vide fol. 160, vol. 1. Reg. Grandissoni A. D. 1348.

N. B. Generally speaking, the common seal and all the public monuments and records of the monasteries, were kept under three different locks and keys. This seal could not be validly used without the consent of the majority and more respectable part of the community, "majore & saniore parte conventus."

Crown granted an annuity to almost every individual member.

As far as I can collect, the average fee payable to the Bishop, at the visitation, was 20s.

Of the state of learning in our Devonshire monasteries, I regret to have found so few materials to enable me to form a satisfactory opinion. If Leland's Collectanea (where some account is given of the books that he found in the conventual libraries) were made the criterion, we should be inclined to think unfavourably of their application to literature. But the impartial observer would not be precipitate in deciding: he would recollect that Leland's plan was vastly too extensive, even for his industry and extraordinary ability—that it is but a rapid sketch\* of what he saw and heard. Again, that Leland was no friend to the monasteries, and that he had an interest in their suppression. Besides, it is reasonable to suppose, that the religious themselves, seeing the storm ready to burst on them, and conscious that their houses were devoted to pillage and destruction, would secrete or remove their most valuable manuscripts and records. Again, we must take into our consideration the spirit of havoc and fanaticism that stalked abroad at the period of the Dissolution.† We may also form some estimate of what literary treasures may have existed in our Devonshire monasteries, by what we know did actually exist in some other religious houses in other parts of England. In Peterborough Monastery the books amounted to two thousand; in Glastonbury Abbey the manuscripts were almost innumerable. I must not omit stating, that Ford Abbey, in this county, was in high repute for learning; that Tavistock‡ could boast of its

\* Compare his jejune account of the MSS in the library of St. Paul's Church, London, with the catalogue given by Dugdale.

† The Reformation gave a sudden check to the progress of literature. Wood, in page 285, lib. 1. *Hist. et Antiqu. Universitatis Oxoniensis*, describes the state of that University, in the year 1546, as truly deplorable. He says, that formerly there were three hundred halls, or more, in Oxford, but were then reduced to eight; and he adds, "*Sane quidem literatorum studia tam penitus restinxit Cœnobiorum everio, ut juvenes artes omnes ingenuas perdendas iri suspicati, ad munera civilia, vel etiam mechanica sese converterint.*"

‡ A printing press was erected in this abbey at a very early period. Ames, in p. 430—468 of his *History of Printing*, mentions Walton's

Saxon school; and that I find no complaint of a deficiency of books in the account of the episcopal visitations, except in one instance—viz. Hartland Abbey.\* Now the silence of such a sagacious and very learned Prelate, as Bishop Stapeldon undoubtedly was, may be construed into an argument in favor of the other provincial monasteries: in fact, it was a considerable employment of the Monks to transcribe manuscripts; and it was very usual for the Clergy and others to bequeath their collections to the conventual libraries. In the course of this work the reader will find an Archdeacon of Exeter, A. D. 1266, granting his library to the Franciscan convent in Exeter, and a Clergyman leaving 136 books to the library of Ottery College, A. D. 1445.

With respect to the mode of electing the Superiors of religious houses, it appears, from the registers, to have been conducted with great regularity and solemnity. The canon† law had determined that no vacancy should continue beyond the space of three months. As soon then, as the body of the deceased Superior was consigned to ecclesiastical burial, the convent made application to the patron‡ of their house, i. e. to the founder, or the representative of the founder's family, for permission to proceed to the election of a successor. When this permission was obtained, the Mass de Spiritu Sancto was celebrated at the high altar, on the day appointed for the election, and afterwards the signal was given for repairing to the chapter-house. Here a short instruction was delivered, suitable to the occasion, by one of the community, and the names of the members who had voices at the election were called over

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translation of Boetius de Consolatione, "enprinted in the Exempt Monastery of Tavystoke in Denshere, by me Dan Thomas Rychard, Monke of the said Monastery, 1525," 4to, and "The Confirmation of the Tynners' Charter, 26, Hen. 8," in 16 leaves, 4to.

\* Vide Bp. Stapeldon's Reg. fol. 147 ad an 1319.

† "Conditores Canonum provida deliberatione statuerunt quod *ultra tres menses* vacare non debeant."—Regist. passim. N. B. All public business was transacted in the chapter-house, and even *before dinner*, unless something urgent required the contrary.—Vide fol. 423, vol. 3. Lacy's Reg.

‡ "Patrons of abbeyes shall have the custody of them during a vacancy." See Magna Charta, 9. Hen. 3. N. B. If the vacancy exceeded the period fixed by the canons, the collation devolved on the Bishop, "*per lapsam temporis.*"



by the President of the Chapter. The hymn *Veni Creator* was then intoned, after which, the President charged, in the name of God, every person that was excommunicated, suspended and interdicted; every one, in fine, that was not concerned in the election, to depart forthwith, that the community might proceed with perfect freedom. The patron's letter of permission was then read, and the Constitution Quapropter. Each one then declared his choice; and when the majority of votes was collected, *Te Deum* was solemnly chaunted, and the elect was conducted to the high altar, where his election was proclaimed to the assembled multitude. The consent of the elect was then demanded; and as soon as it was obtained, an official account of the proceedings was drawn up by an apostolic notary, who was always an assistant on these occasions, and by him was forwarded to the Bishop. Soon after, the elect repaired to the Bishop for confirmation in his new dignity, which of course was granted, (if nothing uncanonical had transpired in the election) on his taking the oath of obedience to the See, and affixing his signature to this formulary, which was generally deposited on the high altar.

I think I cannot conclude this Preface better, than by transcribing the opinion of Thomas Hearne, A. M. on monastic institutions, premising that this profound scholar and very staunch antiquary was a steady and sincere friend to the Church of England.\* "I cannot but publicly declare, that I think it would have been more happy for the Church of England, as well as for the nation at large, if Henry VIII. had only reformed, and not destroyed, the abbeys and other religious houses. Monastic establishments are very ancient; and it had been very laudable had he reduced the manner of worship to the primitive form. But then this would not have satisfied the ends of himself and his covetous and ambitious agents. They all aimed at the revenues and riches of the religious houses. For which reason, no arts nor contrivances were to be passed by, that might be of

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\* See his Preliminary Observations to Browne Willis's History of Mitred Abbeyes.

use in obtaining those ends. The most abominable crimes were charged upon the religious, and the charge was to be managed with the utmost industry, boldness, and dexterity. This was a powerful argument to draw an odium upon them, and to make them disrespected and ridiculed by the generality of mankind. And yet, after all, the proofs were so insufficient, that, from what I have been able to gather, I have not found any direct one against even a single monastery. The sins of one or two particular persons do not make a Sodom; neither are violent or forced confessions to be esteemed as the true result of any one's thoughts. When, therefore, even these artifices would not do, the last expedient was put in execution, and that was ejection by force." So far Mr. Hearne, to whose observations I may add the following extract from Mr. Burke's *Reflections on the French Revolution*, p. 207, 6th edit.

"It is not with much credulity I listen to any, when they speak ill of those whom they are going to plunder. I rather suspect that vices are feigned or exaggerated, when profit is looked for in the punishment. An enemy is a bad witness—a robber is a worse."



## Collections, &c.

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### ST. NICHOLAS' PRIORY,

#### EXETER.

**T**HE Priory of St. Nicholas can boast of high antiquity. It is clearly the foundation of William the Conqueror, and, with the small church of St. Olave,\* was made dependent on Battle Abbey,† in Sussex.

Gunterus, a Monk of Battle, was first deputed to take charge of this infant establishment. After a short residence, he was appointed Abbot of Thorney, in Cambridgeshire. Cono, who was named his successor, is recorded to have interested himself, most warmly and most effectually, to promote the welfare of this religious foundation. Under the patronage of the founder's son, William Rufus, he succeeded in building a new church and monastery, which he dedicated to St. Nicholas;‡ he procured a colony of Monks from Battle Abbey, and obtained of the parent house a renunciation of all claim to the church of St. Olave and its appurtenances, and to

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\* This Saint was King of Norway, and was martyred by his infidel subjects A. D. 1028. See his acts (a) in the Appendix.

† See vol. I. Dugd. Monastic. p. 315; also Domesday, Devonshire, Art. Labataillge.

‡ This Saint was the Archbishop of Myra, the capital of the province of Lycia, in Asia Minor. He died in 342. His memory has been held in particular veneration by the western churches, since the year 1087, when his relics were brought from Lycia to Bari, a seaport in the kingdom of Naples.

certain lands in Collumpton, with the five prebends of Uppetona, Colebroche, Hineland, Waevre, and Esse, on condition that the Priory of St. Nicholas should pay an acknowledgment of sixty shillings per annum.\*

From a letter addressed by the Primate, St. Anselm, to Osbern, the Bishop of Exeter, A. D. 1103, it appears that these new religious were not a little molested by some of the secular Clergy of Exeter, and that even the Bishop had forbidden them to ring their bells agreeably to the custom of the Benedictine Order. St. Anselm mildly rebukes the indiscretion of both, inculcates the obligation of charity, and feelingly recommends the religious to the confidence and protection of the venerable Bishop.†

King Henry I. befriended this royal foundation. His donation of the land of Relisdon, then valued at twenty-five shillings per annum, is given in the Monasticon. But King John honoured this priory with such particular marks of favor and distinction, as to deserve the name of a second founder. He gave it the estate of Bradeham, then worth fifty shillings per annum; he granted them a moiety of the profits of Lammas Fair, in Exeter, and I believe the whole profits of St. Nicholas' Fair. In the fifth year of his reign, when the effects of famine were severely felt in Exeter, he addressed a brief to the Sheriff of Devon, "that by the oversight of the *Priour* of *St. Nicholas*, of Exceter, & IIII Liege men of the same Town be fed CCC poore people from the IId of Maie till the date of the Assumption of our Ladie, so that everie one of them have dailie one lofe (foure loaves shall be worth a penny) and so much potage made of the meale and herbes, while herbes may be founde; and when the cannot be gotten, of beanes or of peason, wherebie they may be susteined that they perishe not. And it shall be allowed you at our Exchequer."

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\* I am credibly informed that this acknowledgment partly continued to be paid to the Crown, from the time of the dissolution of the priory, until the year 1780, when the late Sir Robert Palk procured its redemption in favor of Nathaniel Cosseratt, Esq.

† (b) Appendix.

In fol. 91—2. of Bishop Bronescombe's Register, three records are extracted from the ancient book called "*The Leger Prioratûs Sci Nicholai Exon*"—a book that seems to have perished in 1731 (Oct. 23,) at the fire in the Cotton Library.\* The first is an amicable composition between the Dean and Chapter of St. Peter's, Exeter, and the Prior and Monks of St. Nicholas, respecting certain tithes issuing from two mills, and the fishery of the river Exe, near St. Clement's Chapel, de Piscariâ super aqua que dicitur Exe prope Capellam Si Clementis.† The Chapter resigns all claim and pretension to the said tithes, on condition that the Prior and Convent pay them forty-pence sterling, viz. twenty-pence at Michaelmas, and twenty-pence at Easter. This composition was made whilst Simon de Apuliâ was Bishop, consequently between 1214 and 1224. The second refers to a taxation, soon after, by Richard Blondy, Chancellor to Bishop Brewer, for the better support of the Vicar of Cadbury. The Prior of St. Nicholas is directed to allow the Vicar certain houses on the north-side of the church, four acres of land, and a part of the tithes. The third is an agreement between the Prior and Julian, Rector of Thorverton, respecting the tithes of the mill of Cadbury. The Prior agrees to pay him six-pence in lieu of tithes.

Bishop Brewer, who succeeded Simon de Apuliâ in the See of Exeter, was a benefactor to this establishment. We are informed by Bishop Grandisson, fol. 12. vol. 2. of his Register, that he appropriated to it the parish church of Poughill, in this county, for the purpose of furnishing the conventual church with lights, during the celebration of divine service.

The Abbots of Battle invariably presented the Priors of St. Nicholas, who were generally religious of that great monastery. Before we offer to the reader the succession of the Priors that we have been able to recover, we think it necessary to expose

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\* These three records are transcribed by Wm. Jermyns, the Registrar temp. Regiæ Elizab.

† The site of this chapel is still called "*St. Clement's Meadow*," and the road leading to it, "*Chapel Lane*."

and refute the current and received opinion, that Alexander Necham was one of these Priors. The fact is, that he was not even a member of the Benedictine Order,—he was even refused admission amongst the Benedictines, at St. Albans; and in consequence of this unreasonable rejection, he entered the Augustine Order. In 1213 his singular merits raised him to the dignity of Abbot of Cirencester, in Gloucestershire. After having governed this Abbey, with credit to himself, and to the satisfaction of the community, for the space of three years, he retired to Worcester, and was buried either in the cloisters or in the presbytery of that cathedral.—See Leland's Collectanea, vol. 4, p. 158—Leland's Itinerary, p. 116. vol. 8—Browne Willis' History of Mitred Abbeyes, Art. Cirencester—the learned Dr. Milner's History of Winchester, vol. 1, p. 217.

(PRIORS OF ST. NICHOLAS.)

A. D.

The 1st that I meet with after *Gunterus* and *Cono*, who have been already noticed, is *Peter*, ad ann. 1212

See the *Costumale* of Otterton Priory, penes Rev. Duke Yonge, Rectorem de Cornwood

2. *Robert de Cumbwell*, who resigned in 1258

3. *Robert de Rye* succeeded 29th June, 1258

4. *Roger*, who was elected Abbot of the mitred monastery of Battle, in the summer of the year 1318

5. *William de Burn* succeeded Roger, Aug. 28, 1318, and resigned soon after.

6. *Robert, alias Laurentius de Suing* was appointed William's successor, on the 14th of January, 1319  
1320

N. B. Whilst he was Prior, A. D. 1321, the belfry of his conventual church fell suddenly to the ground. John Drokenesford, Bishop of Bath and Wells, granted an indulgence of twenty days to all who should contribute to its re-building.

7. *John de Gordon*, who resigned in 1334

N. B. This Prior appears, from Bishop Grandisson's Register, to have been a man of business, and a most respectable character.

8. *John de Brechon* succeeded on the 9th of A. D. the following September. He died Prior in the early part of 1349

9. *John de Wye* was admitted Prior on the 26th March that year, and died about two months after.

10. *Thomas Suyng* succeeded June 6, and resigned early in 1353. 1349

This Prior most shamefully neglected the duty of residence, which drew from the zealous and vigilant Bishop Grandisson the spirited remonstrance recorded in his Register. In consequence, the Prior deemed it most prudent to tender his resignation to the Bishop, about Easter, 1353, and which was readily accepted.

11. *Matthew of Exeter* was admitted his successor, on the 17th of April. On this occasion Bishop Grandisson admonished him, in virtue of obedience, and under the penalty of the greater excommunication, not to abandon the priory, or lay down his office, without the Episcopal license previously asked and obtained. He resigned late in the year 1353

12. *Gilbert de Lyndseye* succeeded Dec. 3d, that year. At his institution, Bishop Grandisson forbade him to grant any corrodies or perpetuities without his license, and the consent of the Abbot of Battle. 1359

This Prior lived to a great age. On the 16th July, 1388, Bishop Brantyngham, in consideration of his years and infirmities, "*adversâ valetudine detentus & senio confectus*," appointed William Cantelbyry, a Monk of St. Nicholas, to act as coadjutor to Prior Gilbert. Before the Monk entered upon his office, the Bishop charged him to make out an inventory of the property of the convent, and, according to established custom in these cases, to lay a faithful statement of his accompts every year before the community.

On the 29th October, 1389, the above-mentioned Bishop ordered the sentence of excom-



munication to be pronounced in the cathedral, and in all parochial churches and chapels in the city of Exeter, against certain persons who had unjustly invaded the property and privileges of St. Nicholas' Priory.

13. *Robert Bregge*, who died early in 1396

14. *Thomas Hankherste* succeeded on the 23d of May, that year, and resigned in the spring of 1400

15. *William Mershe* succeeded June 3, and was elected Abbot of Battle on the 23d of July 1404

N. B. On the 8th of November, 1400, a little box, containing the convent seal, was imprudently left in the chapter-house, and was stolen in the course of that day. The seal is thus described in fol. 51. of Bishop Stafford's Register :--"Sigillum rotundum fuerat, habens in medio insculptum ad instar & similitudinem Castri quadrati habentis in sui medio unam turrim excelsam, & in angulis suis alias turres bassiores & propugnacula, & super castrum hujusmodi in una parte Vetus Scutum Armorum Regis Anglie cum tribus Leopardis, & in alia parte gladium erectum, & in ejusdem gladii cuspide sive punctu Coronam Regiam, ac subter Castrum Draconem gradientem insculpta. In circumferencia vero sive circulo ejusdem sigilli scriptum erat sic.

Sigillum. Eccle. Sci Nicholai. Exonie."

Bishop Stafford requires, that the sacrilegious robbers should restore it within fifteen days, under pain of excommunication; in the mean while, all deeds and leases, sealed after the 8th of November, were to be considered null and void. As soon as the convent seal is returned, the Prior is charged to break it up and destroy it, as another seal was to be made "de diversa sculptura, & de alia forma.\*

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\* This Seal was recovered, and was used until the dissolution of the Priory. Amongst the records of the corporation of Exeter, I find it attached to a bond of William Collumpton, the last Prior, bearing date 10th August, 1528.

A. D.

16. *William Becket* succeeded Wm. Mershe.  
He died Prior early in 1414

17. *John Underdowne*, admitted Prior, June  
7th. He died early in 1419

18. *John Dalington*, instituted March 9th,  
that year. He died late in 1436

19. *Stephen Feversham*, admitted his suc-  
cessor, on the 13th of the following January,  
and died early in 1460

20. *John Newton* succeeded, and after go-  
verning the Priory three years, was raised to  
the dignity of Abbot of Battle.

21. *Richard Wylsham* succeeded on the  
28th of June, 1463

22. *John Herford*, who died Prior in the  
autumn of 1493

23. *William Westfeld* instituted on the 28th  
of October, that year. He resigned early in  
1499, to become Abbot of Battle.

24. *John Lewys* admitted his successor on  
the 10th of April. He died late in 1522

25. *William Collumpton*, the last Prior; suc-  
ceeded on the 10th of the following January.  
This Prior consented to the surrender of his  
convent, in the autumn of 1536, when the  
three hundred and seventy minor monasteries,  
whose yearly income was under three hundred  
marks, or £200, were dissolved by act of Par-  
liament. It is not a little singular, that he  
presented to Brampford Speke vicarage, as late  
as the 14th of July, A. D. 1540. Vide fol. 101,  
vol. 1. of Bishop Veysey's Register.\*

Dr. Tanner, in his *Notitia Monastica*, a work of  
considerable merit and general accuracy, informs us,  
that this Priory was founded for *six* Monks. Pro-  
bably it was *originally* founded for so limited a  
number; but I think it fair to conclude, from the  
numerous Subdeacons, Deacons, and Priests, that  
were ordained ad titulum Sancti Nicholai, that the  
community was afterwards considerably augmented.

\* This Prior was still alive in 1553, in the receipt of the annuity of £20  
which had been granted him, when he surrendered his convent.—See B.  
Willis', p. 61, vol. 2. of Abbies.

The annual revenues of the Priory, according to Dugdale, were £147 12 0; according to Speed, £154 12 0

It presented, as appears from the Registers of the See of Exeter and Browne Willis' Parochiale Anglicanum, to the following places, in the county of Devon—

To the rectory of Poughill.

The vicarage of Brampford Speke.

The vicarage of Collumpton.

The vicarage of Cadbury.

The vicarage of Alphington.

The vicarage of Pinhoe.

The vicarage of Tawton Episcopi.

The curacy of Netherexe.

Also to Rakenford, for some time, as appears from an extract of the Leger Book, inserted in Bishop Bronescombe's Register.

Also to the parish church of St. Olave, in this city. In the *Taxatio Bonorum Ecclesiasticorum*, begun by order of King Edward I. A. D. 1288, and finished in 1291, I meet with the following articles:—

£. s. d

Prior Sti Nichi Exon percipit in Ecclesià

Sti Olavi .....	1	0	0
In Ecclesià de Clifton .....	0	5	0
In Ecclesià de Tawton (North) .....	1	6	8
In Civitat a Subûrb Exon de redd .....	6	8	0
Apud Shireford que taxatur ad .....	2	13	4
Apud Medehay que tax ad .....	0	13	4
Apud Combe ... ..	1	4	0
Apud Wener .....	0	16	8
Apud Bradeham .....	2	0	0
Apud* Cobelegb and Lechethale de redd ...	1	6	8
Apud Baunton de redd .....	0	2	0
Apud Pothull .....	0	16	0

Of this most ancient royal foundation, and by far the most extensive and respectable of the monastic establishments in this city, very considerable re-

\* I observe, in a grant of King Henry VIII. dated August 26, Anno Regni 32, that these lands are called Monkencobleigh, and had remained in the possession of the priory until its final suppression.

mains and vestiges are still in existence; but they are not sufficient to enable me to ascertain the original ground plan. The greater part of the enclosure is still called *the Mint*, probably a corruption of the *mynstre* or the monastery: certainly we have no accounts of any coinage in any part of these premises. At the period of the Dissolution, King Henry VIII. made a grant of the priory to Sir Thomas Denys, (as Dr. Tanner accurately observes) and he seems to have sold it soon after to the Corporation of Exeter.\* Such was the barbarous taste of the new proprietors, that they demolished the venerable structure of St. Nicholas' Church, the ornament of their city, and the admiration of strangers, for the miserable purpose of getting materials to patch up the town walls, and to stop up the gaps in Exeter bridge.

O miseri, quæ tanta insania, cives!

How long the Corporation retained possession of the premises, I cannot precisely say; but I know they had disposed of them in lots before the accession of King William III. A neat Catholic chapel, dedicated to St. Nicholas, (now served by the author of this work,) stands on part of the scite of the ancient conventual church; it was opened for public worship in January, 1792; and in digging for the foundation, several graves, parts of monuments, mutilated inscriptions, and quantities of carved mouldings were discovered.

This article might probably receive considerable improvement, if free access could be had to the archives of the Corporation. In a M.S. catalogue of the deeds, books, and papers, that are contained in the two presses in the council chamber, mention is made of the following documents:

1. Accts. of the manor of St. Nicholas.
2. An old rental of St. Nicholas' manor.
3. Court Rolls of the manor of St. Nicholas.
4. Fragment of a Court Leet Book of the manor of St. Nicholas.

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\* Isaacse maintains, that the Corporation purchased the priory from the Crown in 1549, and that the bridge over the Exe was repaired with the stones of the demolished church, in 1539!!!

King Henry 8, on the 20th of March, Anno Regni 34°. leased the rectory of Cadbury and Netherexce, to Will. Sherlande, Gent. during a term of 21 years, for the sum of 53s. and 4d per annum.

## ST. ANDREW'S PRIORY,

### AT COWIC.\*

**I**N the second vol. of Dugdale's *Monasticon*, a charter is given of Henry II. specifying and confirming the estates, in England, then belonging to the celebrated abbey of Bec,† in Normandy.

In this charter, the manors of Cwic and Exwic are mentioned as the donations of William, the son of Baldwin. Gough, in his edition‡ of Camden's *Britannia*, asserts, that this William was the founder of Cowic Priory, during the reign of the above-mentioned Sovereign. The first mention that I have found of this priory, in authentic records, is in the inquisition taken after the death of John Lord Courtenay, who succeeded his father, Robert, in his honors and estates, on the 26th July, A. D. 1242. In this inquisition, Cowic Priory is expressly stated to be under his patronage. The religious of this house, who were of the Benedictine Order, were a filiation from Bec, as King Henry VI. informs us, in a letter addressed to Bishop Lacy;§ and its Priors were regularly appointed by the Abbots of that great monastery. Of these Priors I have collected the following succession:—

	A. D.
1. <i>Thomas</i> , who resigned in the year	1263
2. <i>N.   de Columbers</i> , who resigned in	1275

\* Arms—3 Cows passant sable, collared Or, eyed Gules.

† This abbey was founded by the venerable Hellouin, on his own estate, at Bec, circiter A. 1040. See an account of the abbey in Ducarel's *Anglo-Norman Antiquities*, p. 86, vid. III. Appendix.

‡ Article "Devonshire," p. 56; but on what authority?

§ See fol. 206 of Bp. Lacy's Register.

|| Probably the initial in the register for Nicholas.

A. D.

3. *Adam de Bours*, confirmed successor to the above, on the 16th of August, 1275

4. *William de Portá*, admitted Prior by Bishop Bytten, between the years 1292 & 1307.

5. *Eustachius* occurs Prior in the year 1317

6. *Thomas de Leonibus* resigned in 1334

7. *Alexander de Rothis*, confirmed Thomas's successor on the 22d of August, 1334, and resigned his office in 1352

8. *Durandus de Sancto Stephano* succeeded, and was Prior for 9 years.

9. *John de Ponte Episcopi*, admitted Prior on the 15th of May, A. D. 1361

10. *Robert de Glanvilla*, died Prior in 1382

11. *William de Estrepeny* succeeded Robert on the 2d of August, and resigned 16 years after.

12. *John de Bourgeanyll*, confirmed William's successor, May 29th, 1398

13. *Peter*, who died Prior in the year 1420

14.\* *William Dounebant*, admitted Prior Nov. 20, that year.

N. B. He died early in 1447.

15. *Robert de Rouen*, alias *Beedenne*, confirmed his successor 22d April, 1447

N. B. This Prior resigned his office on the 22d Nov. †1451

This being an alien priory, it was frequently seized upon during the wars between England and France, King Henry V. in the 8th year of his reign, leased it out for a term of twenty years; but on the petition of William Dounebant, the Prior, addressed to King Henry VI. representing the impoverished state of his convent, and the serious injury that it had recently sustained, from the inundations of the river Exe, his Majesty was graciously pleased to restore to the house its property and privileges, and exonerate it from the annual charge of twenty-four marks, which had been payable to the Crown.†

Scarcely had the priory begun to breathe from the

\* Dugdale mistakes, when he asserts that this priory was suppressed in the Parliament held at Leicester, A. D. 1414.

† Vid. appendix (d).

‡ Vid. fol. 206, Lacy's Reg.

pressure of misfortune, when it was visited by a dreadful calamity. Bishop Lacy, in his letter to the Barons of the Exchequer, dated March 19, A.D. 1444-5, (which is preserved in fol. 256, of his Register,) states, that it accidentally took fire on Palm Sunday, that year, and that its loss, in buildings, moveables, and cattle, was computed at £177 12s. 4d. a very considerable sum in those days.

It seems that the convent could not recover itself from this misfortune; and probably the distressed state of the times and the increasing difficulty of procuring religious subjects from the mother-house, at Bec, induced the Prior, Robert de Rouen, to resign his office, and to surrender his convent. His deed of resignation and surrender was made at Eton College, in the Provost's chambers, on the 22d day of Nov. 1451.\* In adopting this measure, he might have been influenced by the advice of Thomas, Earl of Devon, the patron of Cowyk, who had proved himself a generous benefactor to the new college of Eton, then recently founded by King Henry VI.

On the final resignation by Robert de Rouen, Henry VI. applied the revenues of this priory and its right of patronage to Eton College; but, thirteen years after, King Edward IV. transferred this donation to his favourite abbey of Tavistock. Until the general dissolution of religious houses, it continued in the possession of this great abbey, when it was granted to John Lord Russell, 4th July, 31. Henry VIII.†

After its union with Tavistock, I apprehend that a few Monks were settled in the house, not under the government of a *perpetual Prior*, as formerly, but of a Superior, that was removeable at the discretion of the Abbot. Browne Willis, in p. 7. of the appendix to vol. 2. of his History of Abbies, asserts indeed, that "John Carter was last Prior to Cowic, a cell to Tavistock;" but the registers of the See of Exeter are perfectly silent as to the induction of any Priors subsequent to Robert of Rouen.—In Pope Leo X. Bull,

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\* Vid. Append. (d).

† Francis, Earl of Bedford, and William Lord Russell, his son and heir apparent, sold much of their property in St. Thomas's parish, comprising Barley and Franklyn, about the year 1641.

addressed to the Abbot of Tavistock, dated Sept. 14, A. D. 1517, the priory of Cowyk, as parcel of the possession of the said abbey, is expressly exempted from the jurisdiction, visitation and superiority of the Diocesan and Metropolitan, and is taken under the immediate possession of the Holy See. Vid. fol. 41. vol. 2. Reg. Bp. Veysey.

Many of the Courtenay family chose the conventual church of St. Andrew for their place of interment. Hugh Lord Courtenay, Baron of Oakhampton, who died in 1291, was buried here; as also Hugh Lord Courtenay, who died in 1340 —Vid. Cleaveland's Hist. of the Courtenays. Dugdale, p. 791. vol. 1. Monast. makes mention of Agnes Courtenay, Countess of Devon, who died at Tiverton on the 11th of June, A. D. 1340, and was solemnly interred at Cowyk, on the 27th of the same month.

It is singular, that the scite of this priory can no longer be traced with any degree of satisfaction. It is clear, however, from Bishop Stafford's Register, (2. vol. p. 287) that it was situated at the further extremity of St. Thomas' parish, in ultimis finibus parochie; and again, that it must have stood on the low grounds bordering on the Exe: as it appears from the mandate already mentioned of King Henry VI. that it was exposed to the inundations of this river, and had suffered considerable damage in consequence.\*

From fol. 22. of Bishop Bronescombe's Register, we learn, that in Oct. 1261, a Vicar was first appointed to take charge of the parishioners of Cowic. The Prior was then directed to provide the Vicar with a suitable dwelling-house, and to pay him an annual stipend of five marks of silver, at the four principal terms of the year. Their parochial chapel, dedicated to St. Thomas,† the Archbishop of Canterbury, and dependent on the conventual church of St. Andrew, was situated at the extremity of Exeter bridge—

\* "*Magna pars possessionum prioratus cuidam magne Riparie vocate Exe convicina existit ac de ingentibus fluctibus qui ibidem annis nuperimis evenerunt extitit inundata: ac Ecclesia & Claustrum Prioratus maximeque pars domorum illius loci, adeo debilia & putrida existunt; quod magna pars inde ad terram verosimiliter est casura, nisi custubus non modicis cicius adjuvetur & relevetur.*"

† See Bp. Stafford's Reg. vol. 2, p. 287,



"ad finem Pontis civitatis Exon super ripam fluminis de Exe." To this chapel all parochial privileges were annexed, excepting the right of burial, "sepulturâ duntaxat exceptâ;" the place of interment for the parish being the cemetery of St. Michael's Chapel, situated without the priory gate, "in Cemiterio Capelle Sci Michaelis extra Portam Prioratûs de Cowyk situato." This chapel of St. Thomas had recently been swept away by an inundation of the river Exe, "vi fluminis de Exe nuper funditus eversa & irrecuperabiliter collapsa." In consequence of this calamity, the Prior, John de Bourgeanyll, gave a spot of ground, commonly called Pyryhay, or Piri hay, sufficiently large for a church and a cemetery. This spot is described as being at a considerable distance from the river, "A dicto flumine & ejus inundatione longè distante;" and as lying in the centre of the parish; and "in medio parochie situata." By the joint exertions of the Prior and of the parishioners, funds sufficient for the erection of the present parish church were collected; and on the 4th Oct. A. D. 1412, Bishop Stafford consecrated this sacred edifice; and, on the following day, the burial ground, under the title of St. Thomas the Martyr. In the grant to Lord Russell, A. D. 1540, it is styled "Parochia Thome Bekket."

In the *Taxatio Bonorum Ecclesiasticorum* in Diocesi Exon, mentioned in the preceding article, I observe the following items:—

	£.	s.	d.
Prior de Cowyke habet Manerium de Cris-			
tenestowe val. ....	6	18	8
Maneria de Cowyke & Exwyke .....	9	2	0
In Parochiâ de Innardesley (Quare Inward-			
leighe) de redd .....	0	5	0
De ecclesia de Methe.....	0	2	0
De portione Vicarie de Ochampton* .. ...	0	13	4

Bp. Grandisson returned the following account of the property of Cowic Priory, to King Edward III. A. D. 1356:—

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\* Oakhampton church was consecrated by Bp. Bronescombe, July 31, 1261.

Prior de Cowyk optinet ecclesiam de

Cowyk cum capellâ Sci Thome val

per annum..... XII marcarum

Idem optinet de Sprayton val per an... Cs

Idem optinet ecclâ de Chrystowe val

pr an ..... X marc.

Idem optinet ecclâ de Ochampton val

pr an ..... XII lib.

Idem percipit portionem val annuatim

ab ecclâ de Sampford Courtenay ... Vs

Idem percipit pensionem annuam de

Ecclâ de Whymple Courtenay ... II marc

Cleaveland, in his history above quoted, informs us, p. 135, that the chapels of Halstock, Kenne and Sticklepath, were also subject to the priory of Cowic.

## ST. CATHARINE'S PRIORY,

### AT POLSLO.\*

**T**HE Benedictine nunnery of Polslo was founded in honor of St. Catharine, by William Lord Brewer, the father and founder of the religious houses of Tor and Dunkeswell. Leland asserts, in his *Collectanea*, that this nobleman was uncle, by his mother's side, (Avunculus) to King John. Matthew of Paris, (in *Maj. Hist. Angl.*) informs us, that he was a great counsellor of state during the reigns of Richard I. and of John; and that William Brewer, who was consecrated Bishop of Exeter, 1224, was a grandson of his (nepos). The sameness of the name has induced several writers to ascribe the honor of this foundation to the Bishop. It is not unlikely that he was a great benefactor.

The Bishops of Exeter were the patrons of this convent, and they appear to have discharged their trust with great zeal and tenderness. The community comprehended about sixteen persons at least; the names of so many appear at the election of the Prioress Juliana de Bruton, A. D. 1347. As the convent was poor, I find it was generally exempted from paying the King's tenths;† and yet, notwithstanding their poverty, Queen Philippa wished to charge them with the maintenance of Jane Turbeville, a secular lady. In the answer of the convent, to be seen in

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\* Bore Gules a sword between three Catharine wheels Argt.

† The nunneries of Cornwood and Canonlegh, as also St. John's Hospital in Exeter, were generally exempted.

the appendix (e) they represent to her Majesty, that it would be a dreadful hardship to support others, when their finances were barely sufficient to afford themselves the common necessities of life. However, the resources of the community were considerably improved and augmented before the dissolution of religious houses.

From the registers so often quoted, and from other authentic documents, I am enabled to offer the reader the following succession of the Prioresses:—

- |  | A. D.  |
|--|--------|
| 1. <i>Margaret de Morchard</i> , instituted on the 25th of Dec.  | 1267   |
| Bishop Bronescombe dispensed with the defectus natalium quem patiebatur.   |        |
| 2. <i>Margaret de Syndon</i> , elected 26th June,  | 1308   |
| She died Prioress 25th June,   | 1321   |
| 3. <i>Marcella Bloyhon</i> succeeded her in the following July.  |        |
| 4. <i>Margaret de Wydepole</i> , who died on the 14th of April,  | 1347   |
| 5. <i>Juliana de Bruton</i> succeeded in July,   | 1347   |
| 6. <i>Christina de Seton</i> , who died June 4,  | 1404   |
| 7. <i>Mathildis Talbot</i> , confirmed as her successor on the 3d of the following July.   |        |
| She died Prioress, Dec. 16,  | 1438   |
| N. B. Bishop Lacy, 17. May, 1439, granted an indulgence of forty days to all such as should say a Pater & Ave, for the repose of the soul of this Prioress and the souls of all the faithful departed.   |        |
| 8. <i>Isabella Burge</i> , admitted Prioress on the 3d of the following January.   |        |
| 9. <i>Isabella Trewtrunk</i> , who died in Jan.  | 1508-9 |
| 10. <i>Cecilia Millaton</i> , or <i>Millington</i> , succeeded Feb. 10th, of the same year.  |        |
| She died early in  | 1530   |
| N. B. After a long and expensive suit, between this Prioress and the Vicar of Budleigh, Bishop Oldham decided, on the 30th Dec. 1513, that the Vicar and his successors should pay 40s. per ann. to the convent, instead of tithes. Vid. fol. 49. Reg. ad finem. |        |

11. *Margaret Trowe* succeeded 13th April, 1530  
 12. *Eleanor Sydnam*, who surrendered her  
 convent to Henry VIII. on 19th Feb. 1538. Vid.  
 p. 65, vol. 2. Browne Willis' Hist. of Abbies.

*Pensions, granted May 1, Anno 31, Henrici 8<sup>i</sup>.*

	£.	s.	d.
To Eleanor Sydnam, the Prioress	30	0	0
Agnes Carewe, a Nun.....	5	6	8
Jane Heton, do. ....	4	0	0
Jane Kelleye .....	4	0	0
Elizabeth Bennett .....	4	0	0
Avys Worthie .....	4	0	0
Ivota Creed .....	4	0	0
Awstys Ruswyl .....	4	0	0
Thomasine Carewe .....	4	0	0
Radegundes Tylleys .....	3	6	8

Total 66 13 4

At the Dissolution, the revenues  
 of Polslo amounted, according

to Dugdale, to..... £164 8 11 pr. an.  
 According to Speed ..... 170 2 3

The scite of this convent was granted, 1. Feb. 32.  
 Hen. VIII. to Sir George Carewe, and Mary, his  
 wife, for the term of their natural lives, Vid. (f)  
 append.

In the 3d year of Edward VI. the Crown disposed  
 of this estate to John, Earl of Warwick. It after-  
 wards passed into the hands of the Champernoun  
 family; then, by exchange, into the Ailworths, and is  
 now the property of the Parkers, of Whiteway.

	£	s.	d.
Priorissa de Polslo apud Polslo tax ad .....	0	12	0
De redd ibidem & perquis.....	1	6	0
Apud Cockespute .....	1	5	0
Apud Berstok ... ..	0	10	0
Apud Donewaldesham & Bradeford de redd	0	13	4
Apud Sigadou & Lynador & Hechfeld .....	0	15	0
Apud Cloxton de redd & perquis.....	2	6	8
Item ibidem que taxatur ad .....	0	6	0
In Civitate Exon de redd .....	2	0	0

	£.	s.	d.
Percipit in ecclā de Aserton(Ayshton) .....	0	15	0
in ecclā de Esse-waut .....	0	13	4

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\*

This community, as it appears from many leases that I have seen, possessed the whole manor of Polslo. In the parish of Heavitree they had some property, styled Dyere Lands, Frog-Marshe, and Botham. In Clyst they had a messuage, called Crosse Park. In Payhembry they possessed the manor of Cockyspitt; and in Exeter they had certain tenements adjoining the Guildhall.

In a lease, bearing date 1. Oct. 15. Hen. VIII. I observe the Prioress Cecilia, "for the fyne of £10 sterling, and one peace of Dowlasse," leased out to Henry Hamlyn, "Cytesen and Merchaunte of the Cytye of Excett," two meadows in the barton of Polslo, one called Southwood, and the other the Horse Mede "lying in the west part of the Grett mede of the convent."

In another lease, mention is made of a barn lately built near our lady's chapel of Mynchin-Lake, (the name of the stream running by Polslo,) "juxta capellam Beate Marie de Mynchinlake."

Dr. Tanner, in his *Notitia Monastica*, makes mention of a nunnery of St. Catharine, near Exeter, which he distinguishes from the convent at Polslo; and he adds, that Sir William Tracy was a considerable benefactor to it.

For the following reasons, I am led to conclude that this nunnery, and the one at Polslo, are precisely the same convent. 1st. The Patron Saint is the same in both cases, and indeed the convent at Polslo is generally styled the house or priory of St. Catharine.—2nd. Both are acknowledged to be in the immediate vicinity of Exeter.—3d. The registers of the See of Exeter are perfectly silent as to the existence of any female community in the neighbourhood, besides the one at Polslo. If any other had existed, surely some notice would have been taken

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\* See the Taxatio above quoted.

of the election or institution of the Prioress, in the episcopal records—some benefaction would occur in the numerous wills which are there transcribed. In some of these wills, not only every religious foundation in Exeter and its neighbourhood, but almost every charitable institution in the county of Devon is specified and remembered ; and what motive can be assigned for omitting this ? With respect to Sir William Tracy's benefactions, I answer, that as Polslo Nunnery was founded in the reign of Henry II. even he may have befriended it in its infancy ; for he did not die until the year 1174. However, it is not improbable, that it was another member of that powerful family, but of the same name, who has the merit of being the benefactor.

I may here observe, that confusion of names of places is not uncommon in the works of writers who reside at a distance, or who cannot procure access to the records and papers which illustrate local histories. For example, the priory of St. Nicholas has been divided into a cell and an hospital, and again has been confounded with St. Andrews, at Cowic. Cowicke and Cuick have been made two distinct foundations. St. John's Hospital, and the Grey Friars, have been mistaken for the same establishment. See Speed, Stevens, and other writers.

## ST. JAMES'S PRIORY,

NEAR EXETER.

**B**ALDWIN de RIVERS founded this priory of St. James, sometimes called *Sti Jacobi de Marisco*, and made it dependent on the great Cluniac\* monastery of St. Martin in the Fields, near Paris, A.D. 1146. Thirteen years after, Robert Warlewast, Bishop of Exeter, consecrated the cemetery adjoining the conventual church.

In a memorandum† of Nicholas Braybrooke, librarian to Bishop Thomas Bytten, mention is made of a collection of documents relating to this Priory, and formerly belonging to that bishop. A catalogue of the manuscripts and charters that were found in the treasury of the Exeter Cathedral, in the year 1257, is given in Bishop Bronescombe's Register. One of these charters was entitled "*Confirmatio Theobaldi Cantuarie Archiepiscopi de Capella Monachorum Sancti Jacobi.*"

The community was small, consisting of a Prior and four Monks. As the convent depended on a foreign house, its revenues were often seized by the Crown, "*occasione guerre*," during the wars between England and France.

The following list of Priors is the best I can offer to the reader.

	A. D.
1. <i>Alured</i> occurs Prior Anno	1157
2. <i>John</i> , admitted January 6,	1276-7

\* The great monastery of Cluni, in the diocese of Maçon, was founded by William, the pious Duke of Aquitain, A. D. 910.

† See the beginning of Bp. Bronescombe's Register.



- |   |               |
|---|---------------|
| 3. <i>Peter de Seynt</i> , who died late in       | A. D.<br>1304 |
| 4. <i>Stephen</i> succeeded in Nov. that year.    |               |
| 5. <i>John de Nantolio</i> , admitted 1st August, | 1314          |
| 6. <i>William de Bytedene</i> .                   |               |

N. B. He was a man totally unfit for his office. Bishop Grandisson describes his government as fatuum & incautum, & styles him, vagabundus & nullibi residens. On the 8th May, 1334, this Bp. excommunicated him for refusing to appear before his commissioners; but absolved him four months after.

- |   |      |
|---|------|
| 7. <i>John</i> occurs Prior in                    | 1341 |
| 8. <i>John Lesper</i> , instituted in November    | 1349 |
| 9. <i>John de Worcester</i> , admitted 10th June, | 1363 |
| 10. <i>John Geuyle</i> succeeded 12th October,    | 1370 |

N. B. He was a religious of Montacute Abbey, in Somersetshire. His singular merits recommended him to Bishop Brantyngham, who collated him to this vacant Priory, Vid. fol. 8. vol.

1. Reg.

- |   |      |
|---|------|
| 11. <i>Ralph Leye</i> succeeded Feb. 20,    | 1374 |
| 12. <i>John Thetford</i> , admitted in Oct. | 1399 |
| 13. <i>Augustinus</i> .                     |      |
| 14. <i>Thomas Dene</i> was Prior in         | 1428 |

and I believe was the last that filled that office.

In the reign of Henry VI. this priory was suppressed, and its estates were granted to his new College, at Cambridge. Though endowed, by the founders, with the lands at Coteleg, with half of the fishery at Topsham and some lands near Exeter, and soon after the church of Tiverton;\* yet the convent was far from being rich.

The site of this ancient priory is now emphatically called the Old Abbey; but hardly a vestige remains to mark its situation.

Nunc intra muros Pasteris buccina lanti  
Cantat & in vestris ossibus arva metent.

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\* This church was subsequently divided into the three portions or prebends, called Clare, Pitt, and Tydicombe. At what precise time this division took place, I am yet to learn; but the registers of the See of Exeter abundantly prove, that the Courtenay family presented to these Prebends as early as the middle of the thirteenth century, nearly an hundred years before Westcote, Risdon, and Cleaveland, suppose them to have existed. From a passage in fol. 14, of Bp. Bronescombe's Register, ad inum, I imagined that Tydicombe portion was originally assigned to St. James' Priory.

Propert. 4. 11.

In the Taxatio I read as follows :—

	£.	s.	d.
Apud Cowle.....	0	13	4
In Civitate Exon de redd .....	0	4	0
Apud Sanctum Jacobum .....	0	3	0
Apud Cothelegh de redd .....	1	0	0
Apud Donnesford .....	3	0	0
In parrochiâ de Holecombe de redd .....	0	15	0

In Bishop Brantyngham's Register is the following memorandum :—"Radulfus Legh Prior Sci Jacobi optinet unam portionem in Ecclesiâ de Tiverton val. pr. annum X lib."

Ex fol. 76. Reg. Walteri Bronescombe.

"In festo Epiphanie Anno 1276 apud Peynton, Dnus Epus admisit fratrem Johem Monachum ad Prioratum Sci Jacobi juxta Exon vacantem, ad presentationem Religiosorum viroru Prioris & Conventûs Sci Martini de Campis, Parisiis, sub hac formâ.

Reverendo in Xto Patri ac Domino Dei grâ Exon Epo, frater Petrus Prior humilis Sci Martini de Campis, Parisiis, totusque ejusdem loci Conventus, salutem & orâtiões ad Dnum humiles & devotas.

Ad Prioratum nostrum Sci Jacobi juxta Exon nunc vacantem, fratrem Iohem monachum nostrum, vobis latorem presencium presentamus, Paternitatem vestram rogantes, quatenus prefatum Iohem, ad regimen predicti Prioratûs admittere & ipsum in eodem instituere velitis & eidem in negociis predicti Prioratûs agendis, si placet, consilium & auxilium impendatis, Valeat bene & diu Vestra Paternitas Reverenda. Datum A.D. 1276, Die Dominicâ in Vigiliâ Sci Mathei Apli."

## COLLEGIATE CHURCH,

### AT CREDITON.\*

**T**HE church of the Holy Cross, at Crediton, though deprived of its brightest gem, by the removal of the pontifical dignity, A. D. 1050, to the city of Exeter, was ever regarded as the first in rank among the collegiate churches in the diocese. For a considerable time she appeared to emulate the magnificent establishment of her more favoured sister, the cathedral of Exeter; she could shew her eighteen Canons, and her eighteen Vicars—she was rich in relicks—she was distinguished with many privileges by the See Apostolic—and the diocesans themselves loved to dwell in her bosom, and to give her frequent proofs of their affectionate veneration. But every thing sublunary has its revolutions. By degrees, the church of the Holy Cross, at Crediton, was neglected; her revenues were reduced, and she saw herself necessitated to move in a more contracted sphere, and to diminish the splendour of divine worship.

Bishop Bronescombe,† whose very soul was inflamed with the noble ambition of promoting the

\* I have seen an impression of the common seal of this church, appendant to a deed for alienating the Prebend of Hempstall. The deed is dated from the chapter-house of Crediton, 20th August, 26 Henry VIII. Unfortunately most of the inscription was lost, or defaced; but the seal was circular, and bore a Calvary Cross, with two angels above, and two at the feet, in an attitude of veneration.

† This venerable Bishop is taxed by Hoker, Godwin, and others, with having fraudulently obtained the patronage of Clist Fomeson parish, now called Sowton; but a document in the Bishop's Register victoriously refutes this inconsiderate accusation. It demonstrates that a fair and legal exchange of lands took place between the Prior and the Bishop—that the latter paid down twenty pounds of silver, and bound himself to pay a yearly acknowledgment at Midsummer.

greater glory of the Almighty, was moved with compassion at the sight of her fallen greatness, and he was determined to reinstate her: nor did he desist from his purpose, until he had restored to her the six Canons and the six Vicars, which were wanting to complete her ancient establishment. During his episcopate, the churches of Coleridge, Eglosheil and Lanante, were appropriated to this collegiate church. See fol. 42. 51-52 of his Register.

A singular event is recorded in fol. 107. of Bishop Stapeldon's Register, which must have contributed to increase the public veneration towards the church of Crediton. A person called Thomas Orey, a fuller by trade, and who had the misfortune of being totally blind, arrived at Crediton from Keynesham, in the diocese of Bath, on Wednesday before the Feast of St. Peter ad Vincula, (Aug. 1.) in the year 1315. On the above-mentioned feast, Bishop Stapeldon celebrated solemn mass in the collegiate church. Between the epistle and the gospel, Thomas Orey, who was intent at his prayers before the altar of St. Nicholas, in the said church, was instantaneously restored to sight. After mass, the miracle was reported to the Bishop, who prudently observes, "*de talibus nimis facile credi non debet*;" and he gave orders for the man to remain in the church, until he should be ready to examine him. Accordingly, he made him appear before him, in the adjoining chapel of our Lady, and in the presence of several witnesses, Thomas took his oath on the holy gospels, and deposed, that after dinner, on Thursday in the last Easter week, he fell asleep, near the door of his dwelling-house, at Keynesham, in good health, and in the complete enjoyment of sight; that he awoke totally blind; and from that time had not been able to distinguish a single object. Being asked by the Bishop, on what finger, and on what hand, he wore his episcopal ring, and many other questions, he returned, in every instance, the clearest and most satisfactory answers. Several persons, who were his neighbours at Keynesham, bore testimony to his blindness. Being asked how he came to think of coming to Crediton, he replied, he had dreamt, that, if he should visit the

church of the Holy Cross there, he should certainly recover his sight. His wife being questioned as to the truth of her husband's assertions, confirmed them upon oath. The Bishop proceeded to examine some inhabitants of Crediton, who had seen Thomas Orey since his arrival, and they declared, that they entertained no doubt of his former blindness. On this evidence, the Bishop considered himself justified in ordering a solemn thanksgiving to Almighty God, for this manifestation of his mercy and power; and it was immediately performed with the accustomed ceremonies.

In fol. 9. vol. 2. of Grandisson's Register, I meet with the following ordinance of that zealous and munificent Prelate. Observing, as he says, that the service of the choir was not performed with suitable dignity and solemnity in this collegiate church, he appointed four boys, *vocem puerilem habentes*, to sing in surplices, during the celebration of the divine office; as also four young clerks, *vocem virilem habentes*, but who were not to be in Priest's orders. Of these latter, one was to have charge of the sacristy, books and ornaments, under the controul of the treasurer; another was to have the charge of the bells; a third was to be stationed near the high altar, to look after the oblations, and to see that "the Canons were not defrauded of their wax, or the Vicars of their money;" and the fourth was to instruct the children in singing, and to inspect their morals. For the support of these eight choristers, the following pensions were to be collected at Easter and Michaelmas, in equal portions:—

From the Precentor .....	16s.
From each of the Prebends, called de la Pole, Hempstill, and Stowford .....	14s.
From each of the Prebends, called Alre, Rigge, and Wodelonde .....	12s.
From Carswell, Coombe,* and la Crosse .....	10s.
From Cridie, and Westsanford .....	8s.
From the six bursal Prebends, or those founded or restored by Bishop Bronescombe .....	2s.

\* This Prebend must be the same as *Prustcombe*, that so often occurs in the registers.

I may here observe, that the three principal dignitaries of the church of the Holy Cross, were

1. The Precentor. He had the direction of the choir service. He was the head of the chapter, and to him, as such, most of the episcopal mandates are addressed.\* An estate, or prebend, called Woolgrove, was attached to this dignity.

2. The Treasurer, who had the charge of the fabric, and of every thing within the church. Carswell Prebend was annexed to his office. If the Treasurer resigned, he was bound to pay twenty shillings, *ad fabricam ecclesie*.

3. The Dean, who was invariably the *Vicarius Perpetuus qui habet totius parochie de Crediton curam animarum*—fol. 30-31. vol. 2. *Regist. Veysey*. Bishop Grandisson, fol. 218. vol. 1. *Regist.* describes him as a rural Dean. In consequence of the laborious duty of attending to the spiritual concerns of so large a parish, the Dean was exempted from the obligation of assisting at the regular office of the choir, except on particular occasions. For his better support, and to enable him to keep hospitality, he had the emoluments arising from two stalls in the choir, and a further yearly allowance of twenty-five shillings and fourpence.—*Vid.* fol. 9. vol. 2. *Regist. Grandisson*. And yet his revenue was inferior to that of the Precentor; for, in fol. 62. vol. 3. of Lacy's *Regist.* the precentorship is valued at nine marks, and the deanery at eight marks.

As far as I can collect, the nave of this collegiate church was reserved for the use of the parishioners, the choir being appropriated to the members of the college.

The funds of the church, though very considerable, (for they amounted, at the Dissolution, to £322, *pr. an.*) were insufficient to keep the fabric in proper repair. In the will of William Langton, (who is

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\* In certain churches, both here and abroad, the Precentor headed the Chapter. As an instance in this country, we may cite the cathedral church of St. David, in Wales: as an example in foreign countries, we may mention the church of Palermo, in Sicily. "*Cantoris dignitas prima est post Pontificatum—Primus fert suffragium in Capitulo, quod ipse cogit cum libuerit.*"—See the learned work of Pirro, entitled *Notitiæ Siciliensium Ecclesiarum*, p. 274.

buried in the Magdalene Chapel of Exeter Cathedral,) preserved in Bishop Stafford's Register, and which is dated January 29, A. D. 1413-4, I observe a considerable legacy towards the repair of the nave, which was then in a state of ruin, "*navis que jam ferè ad terram est prostrata.*" The dimensions of the ancient church are given in William of Worcester's Survey, temp. Hen. VI.—See 2. B. Willis' Hist. of Abbies, p. 325.

"*Longitudo Ecclesiæ Collegii de Kirton cum Capellâ Beatæ Mariæ continet 120 de steppys meis (N. B. One of his steps was two feet). Latitudo Ecclesiæ cum ellis & brachiis dictæ Ecclesiæ 50 steppys de mea mensurâ. Latitudo Navis Ecclesiæ cum duabus ellis continet 32 steppys. Item sunt 6 Archus in Navi Ecclesiæ: Item Navis Ecclesiæ continet circa 14 de Steppys meis.*"

The present fabric must have been erected but a very short time previous to the dissolution of the college: for Leland tells us, that it bore no marks of antiquity. He should have excepted, however, the south porches and the Lady Chapel.

In the appendix will be given the form of the Precentor's and Vicar's oath; as also an inventory of the church ornaments, taken in May, 1524. (*g*)

Richard Erinton, Precentor, Walter Mugg and George Mason, members of the college, subscribed to the supremacy of the King, July 23, A. D. 1534.

In the Episcopal Registers, frequent mention is made of the Hospital of St. Lawrence, at Crediton. The place of Custos or Warden of the establishment was absolutely at the Bishop's disposal. Most generally it was given to some Monk; very frequently to a member of the Holy Trinity House, at Honeslowe, in the London diocese. Near the chapel of St. Lawrence, a Secluserium, or place of retirement for a single Recluse,\* was founded by Bishop Brewer, A. D. 1243, vid. Cartam foundationis, at the end of Bronescombe's Register.

\* Instances of Recluses residing near churches and chapels, frequently occur in the registers. I meet with persons following this mode of living in St. Leonard's Church-yard, Exeter; near St. Agnes' Chapel, in Pilton Church-yard; near our Saviour's Chapel on Ottery Bridge; at Dodbrook; at Bodmin; and other places.

King Edward VI. by letters patent, dated 2 April, in the 1st year of his reign, erected and constituted a corporation at Crediton, of twelve persons (three of whom were always to be inhabitants of Sandford Hamlet) by the name of "The twelve governors of the hereditaments and goods of the church of Crediton." To this corporation, the King granted the parish church of Crediton; the chapel of St. Swithin in Sandford; and the church of Exminster; of all which, the extended yearly value was £62 5s. 4d. His Majesty was further pleased to found and establish a free grammar school in the parish, to be called "The Kyng's newe Gramer Scole of Credyton."—The nomination of the school-master and of the Vicars of Crediton and Exminster, was left to the absolute will and discretion of the Corporation.

From a fact stated in these letters patent, I think it not improbable that Henry VIII. had intended to demolish this collegiate church, for the sake of the materials, as he did so many others; but that he was diverted from this intention by the sum of £200, which King Edward VI. acknowledges had been faithfully paid to his father by the inhabitants and parishioners of Crediton.\*

Queen Elizabeth, by letters patent, dated 5th July, 2nd year of her reign, enlarged her brother's grant, by making over to the Corporation the tithes and lands formerly belonging to St. Lawrence's Hospital already mentioned; the tithes formerly belonging to the twelve Prebends, and the tithes of Crediton and Sandford, once appertaining to the college; reserving to herself and successors the yearly rent of £100. She also considerably augmented the salaries of the schoolmaster, and of the incumbents of the churches already mentioned.

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\* Amongst many churches redeemed from destruction, during this reign of sacrilege and terror, we may instance St. Alban's, which the townsmen purchased for £400.



## PLYMPTON PRIORY.\*

“**T**HE original beginning of this Priorie (says Leland, vol. 3. Itinerary, p. 35.) was after this Fashion. One William Warewist, Bishop of Excester, displeasid with the Chanons or Prebendaries of a Fre Chapelle of the foundation of the Saxon Kings, because they wold not leve theyr Concubines, found meanes to dissolve their College, wherein was a Dean or Provost, and four Prebendaries, with other ministers. Then he set up at Plympton a Priorie of Canons Regular, and after was there buried in the Chapitre house. Diverse Noblemen gave after lands to this priorie, among whom was Walterus de Valle Torta, Lord of Tremerton in Cornewal, and as sum say of Totenes. He gave onto Plympton Priorie the isle of St. Nicholas cum cuniculis conteynng a two acres of ground or more, and lying at the mouthes of Tamar and Plym ryvers.” So far Leland.

Plympton priory, of the order of Canons Regular of St. Augustine, was dedicated to the apostles Peter and Paul. It was certainly the richest monastery in the county of Devon. A catalogue of its Priors is given in the 2nd vol. of B. Willis' Hist. of Abbies. Of its accuracy, until the middle of the thirteenth century, I am not competent to judge; but from that period, till the dissolution of the house, I know it to be very lame and imperfect. The registers of the Bishops of Exeter will furnish a much better guide.

1. *Ralph*, appointed the first Prior

A. D.

1121

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\* Bore the arms of the See of Exeter, from its founder, Bishop William Warlewast.

- A. D.  
1198
2. *Geffry*, elected in  
N. B. Whilst he was Prior, the chapel of our Lady within the Castle of Exeter, with its four Prebends, was granted by William Avenel, to Plympton monastery. See the charter, p. 9. vol. 2. of the Monasticon.
3. *Richard* succeeded in 1160  
4. *John*, elected as his successor in 1169  
5. *Martin* followed, in 1176
- N. B. He rebuilt the priory church from the ground, which continued in being, as Leland tells us, until the dissolution of the house.
6. *John*, admitted Prior in 1188  
7. *Robert Isblinton* succeeded in 1202  
8. *Anthony*, appointed as his successor in 1214  
9. *Richard de Brugis* followed in 1225  
10. *Robert de Molton* in 1236  
11. *Baldwin*, elected in 1251
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12. *Robert de Blundon*, confirmed as Baldwin's successor on the Feast of all Saints, Nov. 1, 1263 by Bishop Bronescombe.
13. *Peter de Sancto Antonio* succeeded in 1273  
14. *Richard de Tregoney*, elected in 1280  
15. *John* (called by Willis *dē la Sturt*), occurs in the registers in 1304  
16. *Matthew de Mimminglond* succeeded, and died very early in 1332
- N. B. During his government, the priory was overcharged with debts. Vid. fol. 18. vol. 2. Reg. Grandissoni.
17. *John de Englebourne*, instituted on the 28th March, 1332.  
He died 14th Sept. 1347.
18. *Robert de Forde* succeeded Nov. 3, 1347  
19. *Thomas Denlyth*.  
20. *Radulfus Person* occurs in 1373  
He died very late in 1379.
21. *John Shaldon* succeeded on the 27th of the following February.  
He died in the spring of 1422.
22. *Nicholas Selman* confirmed as his successor on the 4th of May, 1422  
He died March 1, 1434-5.

23. *Richard Bredon* succeeded on the 21st of the same month and year. His death happened on the 18th Oct.

1497

24. *Robert Boys*, instituted Prior thirteen days after.

He died 14th April,

1440

25. *William Hylle*, confirmed as his successor on the 3d of the ensuing May, and resigned his office, on account of his age and infirmities, in July,

1462

26. *Robert Denbowde* succeeded him on the 5th of the following August.

27. *David Berclé*, I think, was instituted Prior early in

1479

He died on 18th March, 1507-8.

28. *John Ryse* confirmed as his successor by Bishop Oldam, 31st March,

1508

29. *John David*, the Sub-Prior, succeeded, and died early in 1521-2.

30. *John Howe*, the last Prior, succeeded. March 8,

1521-2

On the 5th of August, A. D. 1534, he subscribed, with twenty Monks, to the King's supremacy. After the dissolution of his house, he retired to Exeter College, Oxford, and was still alive in 1553.

The following annuities were granted to the religious of this house, 16. May, 31. Hen. VIII.

	£.	s.	d.
To John Howe, the Prior.....	120	0	0
William Pyeres .....	10	0	0
Richard Keyser .....	10	0	0
Barnard Cole .....	6	13	4
Henry Luxton .....	7	0	0
John Pereman .....	6	13	4
John Nicolles .....	6	13	4
John Denke .....	6	0	0
John Wymond .....	6	0	0
Simon Savery.....	6	0	0
Robert Rudge .....	5	6	8
Robert Demond.....	5	6	8
John Ferrys .....	5	6	8
Thomas Wilcocks.....	5	0	0

	£	s.	d.
Ralph Savage.....	4	13	4
John Bedford.....	4	13	4
Edward Marten.....	4	13	4
Robert Heron .....	4	13	4

The annual revenues of Plympton Priory amounted to £913 12s. 8d.

The following documents will afford a tolerable idea of the immense church patronage which it formerly enjoyed. We may remark, once for all, that appropriations were granted to religious houses, for the promotion of hospitality and charity; "ad hospitum ac pauperum sustentationem."

\* *Universis presentes literas inspecturis Johannes, &c. salutem in sinceris amplexibus Salvatoris. Inter cetera que nostrum animum insolitis impetunt successivis, illud nos frequenti meditatione perunget, ut Viri Religiosi nobis Diocesano jure subjecti, ob illius, cui suam integritatem spontanea voluntate devoverunt reverentiam, vitatis noxiis causarum strepibus quibus plerumque plus debito se involvunt, liberius & quietius suo inserviant Creatori. Sanè cum olim per Ecclesiam, Civitatem & totam Diocesim nostram Exon Diocesana auctoritate Visitationis officio fungeremur, comperimus dilectos filios Priorem & Conventum Monasterii Plympton, Ordinis Sancti Augustini, nostri Patronatus & Diocesis, per varia loca nobis Diocesano jure subjecta, Ecclesias & Capellas distinctas, Parochias & Parochianos, curamque animarum, habentes, Porciones quoque Debimarum & Pensiones inferius designatas tenere & percipere velut in usus proprios perpetuo possidendas, viz. Beatorum Petri & Plympton ubi degant cum capella Sancte Marie & Sancti Thome de Plympton, de Briston & de Wemby, de Plymstock & Sheare ac Saundford ab eadem dependentibus Ecclesiam Sancti Antonini, cum capella Sancte Gerende ab eadem dependente, Ecclesias de Lanhorn de Macre & de Salone cum capella de Bottockishide ab eadem dependente, de Ekebokelond, Dene & Tamarton cum*

\* Ex folio 12<sup>o</sup> Tom. 2. Regist. Johannis Grandissoni Exon Epi ad. an. 1334.

† The word Pauli is omitted.

† It should be Sancti Antonii.

capellâ *Sci Martini de Martystowe* ab eâdem dependente; de *Sancte Mariestowe* cum capellâ de *Thrisshelstone & Sci Jacobi Inchewode* ab eâdem dependentibus, necnon Capellam Sancte Marie de Maresco prope Exoniam una cum decimis, juribus & pertinentiis ecclesiarum predictarum, porciones quoque decimarum & oblationum, viz. *medietatem* ipsarum petventium *ad ecclesiam Sancte Gerende* (exceptis terris nostris Dominicis ibidem) Pensiones insuper annuas XII marcarum Sterlingorum in Ecclesiâ de *Uggeburgh*—V marcarum de *Exemynster*—XL solidorum de *Nywelton*—Cs de *Islyngton*—XLs de *Stockintynhide* X marcarum de *Blackauelton*—X marcarum de *Bristelowe*—I marce de *Bratton*—I marce de *Mewy*—I marce *Sci Justi*—II marcarum de *Lanhern* & V librarum core de *Petrestavy*, ecclesiis nostre Diocesis:—necnon VI marcarum sterlingorum in *nostrâ Exon Ecclesiâ* de singulis Prebendis singulorum Canonicorum Prebendariorum, dicte Ecclesie cum ab hac luce migraverint vel per ingressum Religionis absolute vacaverint Vicariâ suâ. Cum itaque super premissis omnibus & singulis fecissemus dictos Priorem & Conventum coram nobis ad dictos dies & ad dictum locum ad iudicium legitimum evocari, proposituros rationes, munimenta, titulos & jura, quorum pretextu, Ecclesias, Capellas, Decimarum Porciones & Pensiones predictas se legitime adeptos dicant & licite posse tenere, percipere & habere, Frater Robertus de Fforde Sub-Prior dicti Monasterii, dictorum Prioris & Conventus Procurator ad hoc sufficienter constitutus coram nobis comparens, pro eis proposuit in formâ juris, dictos Priorem & Conventum Dominos suos fuisse & esse jure & titulis sufficientibus super assecutione, liberâ retentione & perceptione licitâ Ecclesiarum, Capellarum & Decimarum, Porcionum & Pensionum predictarum communitos. Idemque Procurator, premissâ hac adjeectione, jurando proposuit, quod dicti Prior & Conventus Plympton & eorum Predecessores dictas Ecclesias & Capellas cum suis juribus & pertinentiis unjversis tanquam sibi & Monasterio suo Plympton, canonicè appropriatas & unitas pacificè tenuerunt & possiderunt, scientibus, patientibus, immo verius approbantibus Venerabilibus Patribus Episcopis Exon

à tempore quod excedit memoriam hominum & majorum: quodque Decimarum Porciones & Pensiones predictas pacificè & quiete perceperunt tanto tempore quod diu ante septam\* Visitationem nostram, hujusmodi dicti Prior & Conventus jus percipiendi eas legitimè prescripserunt. Exhibitis igitur, per Procuratorem predictum procurationis nomine dictorum Dominorum suorum ad probationem premissorum nonnullis Apostolicis & pluribus aliis Predecessorum nostrorum Exon Episcoporum, ac Ecclesie nostre Exon Capituli, aliorumque quorum intererat, literis, & instrumentis productis & quibusdam testibus juratis & examinatis, & eorum attestationibus publicatis & discussis, habità nobiscum & cum Petitoribus super premissis visis & diligenter recensitis, deliberatione plenarià & frequenti, quia manifeste invenimus proposita hujusmodi per dictum Procuratorem sufficienter & legitimè probata esse, Nos JOHES, &c. Episcopus predictus, Christi nomine invocato, de juribus Petitorum, nobis assidencium consilio, dictas Ecclesias & Capellas dictis Priori & Conventui ac eorum Monasterio predicto legitimè concessas, appropriatas, & unitas, ac concessionem & appropriationes hujusmodi validas, necnon Porcionum & Pensionum predictarum perceptiones justas fuisse & esse, eosque exhabundanti premissa omnia & singula legitime prescripsisse, prout hec omnia in Petitione Summarià per dictum Procuratorem nomine quo supra coram nobis judicialiter oblata, petita erant, premissà vocatione debità omnium quorum interest in hiis scriptis, per nostram diffinitivam sententiam pronunciamus, decernimus & declaramus & nominamus & adjudicamus eisdem. In quorum omnium testimonium presentes Literas seu presens publicum Instrumentum per Robertum Piek, clericum, auctoritate Apostolicà Notarium Publicum infrascriptum, scribi, & publicari mandamus & nostri sigilli appensione muniri. Datum & actum in Manerio nostro de Clyst III<sup>o</sup> die Marcii Anno Dni MCCCXXXIV.

In the taxatio already quoted, mention is made of the following annuities to Plympton Priory:

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\* Cœptam.

	£	s.	d.
Prior Plympton percipit in Ecclesiâ Sci Johis de Arcubus Exonie.....	1	0	0
In ecclesiâ de Exmynster .....	3	6	8
In ecclesiâ de Stok .....	2	0	0
De ecclesiâ de Downe .....	2	0	0
De Anetote .....	6	13	4
De ecclesiâ de Ugeburgh .....	8	0	0
De ecclesiâ de Mewy .....	0	13	4
De Illostinton (Ilslington) .....	5	0	0
De ecclesiâ de Bratton .....	5	6	8
De ecclesiâ Sci Justi .....	1	10	0
De ecclesiâ SciMaugani .....	1	6	8

In fol. 31. vol. 3. of Grandisson's Register, it is stated, that the priory received an annual pension of fifty marks from the vicarage of Sutton.

In fol. 156. of the same volume, the Bishop informs us, that the church of Stoke paid 40s. per an. to the priory, and the church of Exminster, £61. 2s. 4d.

The following statement of the property of Plympton Priory is extracted from the Taxatio so often quoted :—

	£.	s.	d.
Prior de Plympton habet in Plympton, Reg- way, Synford, Sotana, Beringdonâ and Brastone .....	7	18	8
Maner de Dane .....	6	3	0
Maner de Neweton, Bealhtleng and Primry- ton .....	8	11	4
Apud Tamerten, Martinescombe, Kentebere	1	19	4
Apud Combe Rowaldone .....	0	18	0
Apud la Flor Trisselton, Waterfall, & Sachi	3	14	0
In Decanatu de Plympton de redditibus.....	1	0	0
Apud Cornewode ..	0	3	0
Apud la Elme .....	0	6	0
Apud Swineston .....	0	13	4
Apud Hasewill.....	0	5	0
Apud Appildereslade .....	0	5	0
Apud Westonesham .....	0	18	4
Apud la More juxta Langhiwis.....	0	10	0
Apud la More splet .....	0	7	0
Apud Lamtride Crispin .....	0	6	8
Apud Ermside .....	0	4	0

	£	s.	d.
Apud Worth Hele .....	0	18	0
De terrâ le Cole .....	0	2	0
De terrâ de Maddewill .....	0	18	0
De Brok .....	0	2	0
De Gradinton .....	0	3	0
Apud Tettwill .....	0	3	0
Apud Combe .....	0	4	0
De la Keer .....	0	3	6
Apud la Fenne.....	0	8	0
Apud Midelton .....	0	5	0
Apud Stownahill.....	0	0	4
Apud Sharyscombe .....	0	6	8
Apud Maneton ....	0	8	0
Apud Lorcecombe .....	0	13	4
Apud la More .....	0	16	0
Apud Donesidiok.....	0	5	0
Apud Lampford .....	0	16	0
Item apud Bonchedonn.....	0	3	0
Apud Shroetrug .....	0	6	8
Apud Tormebury .....	0	12	0
Apud Crepetoun .....	0	6	0
Item habet in Cornubiâ in Decimis in Est- wyneshir & Poudyrshyr; apud Tredenahle, simul Hende & Tridinet; Colewode & Te- nesrint que taxantur ad.....	2	8	0
Apud Sanctum Antonium de redd .....	3	12	10
Item in Cornubiâ apud Lanhôw de redd.....	4	3	0
Item de redd molend & perquis .....	1	14	4
Apud Ornell & Macre que taxatur ad.....	1	6	8
<b>Summa Plympton</b>	<b>£53</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Decime</b>	<b>£5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>9½</b>

Within the cemetery of the conventual church at Plympton, was a parochial chapel dedicated to St. Mary. As a mark of dependence, the parishioners had been accustomed, from time immemorial, to assist at divine service, in the conventual church, on the feast of its dedication; as also to receive there the blest Psalms on Palm Sunday, and to walk in the pro-



cession. Bishop Lacy confirmed these customs on the 21st of March, 1436.—Vid. fol. 140. vol. 3. Regist.

The priory possessed, in the City of Exeter, a garden, situate near the Bishop's palace; a large house at the Eastern corner of the entrance from Fore-street into St. Mary Arches'-street, now occupied by Mr. Coldridge, ironmonger; also a house and garden in the parish of St. Mary Major. This tenement was in *Cookes Rewe*, and was let by the last Prior to John Alyn, 16. September, 15. Hen. VIII. In the lease before me, it is thus described:—"illud tenementum nostrum cum suis pertinenciis situatum in civitate Exon in quodam vico ibidem vocato Le Cokerewe inter dictum vicum ex parte Orientali & tenementum heredis Johis Speke Militis ex parte Occidentali & tenementum nostrum proprium ex parte Boreali & tenementum Decani & Capituli Ecclesie Cathedral Exon ex parte Australi."

Two religious cells depended on this great monastery: one of St. Anthony, in Cornwall; the other of St. Mary de Marisco, in the vicinity of Exeter.—At the dissolution of religious houses, I observe in a lease now before me, that the royal plunderer, on the 21. January, 31. Hen. VIII. granted to Henry Thomas, of London, yeoman, for the term of twenty-one years, at the rate of £27. per ann. the priory of St. Anthony, with its appurtenances; viz. £6 14s. 4d. were to be paid for, what are called, "the Damayne lands of the Priorie," 65s. and 8d. for the mills; 100s. for the rectory of St. Anthony; and £12 for the rectory of St. Gerend.

St. Mary's de Marisco, now called Marsh Barton, was founded in the reign of Henry III. Leland incorrectly states it to have been a cell to St. Anthony's Priory, already mentioned. At the dissolution of religious houses, the scite was granted by Henry VII. to James Coffin and Thomas Godwin.

In fol. 89. vol. 1. of Bishop Stafford's Register, is given an account of a remarkable occurrence that took place in this cell or priory. The Bishop asserts, that John Sutton, a servant and cook in the house, was a most violent and passionate man; and that,

after having employed the most scurrilous language against Thomas Cryer, a regular Canon of Plympton, who happened to be in the hall of the priory, he proceeded to attack him with a drawn dagger. The Canon, seeing no means of escaping, was necessitated to stand on self defence, and seizing a stick, which he luckily spied in a corner of the room, he struck the villain a severe blow in the head. A doctor was sent for to examine the wound ; but the obstinate and malicious man would conform to no directions, nor suffer any applications, and he died three days after. Thomas, conceiving himself to have incurred irregularity, abstained from the exercise of his priestly functions ; but, on mature consideration of the case, Bishop Stafford pronounced, on the 5th September, A. D. 1409, that the Canon was entirely free from blame, and of course was clear from any ecclesiastical irregularity.

On referring to the taxation of King Edward I. we find the following particulars concerning the property of this establishment.

£. s. d.

Custos loci Beate Marie de Marisco habet  
terram in Decanatu de Ken que taxatur cum

Instauro ad .....	1	3	4
In Civitate Exon de redd.....	5	3	9
	<hr/>		
Summa	6	7	1
	<hr/>		
Decima	0	12	8
	<hr/>		

In the Episcopal Registers, frequent mention is made of the Franciscan convent at Plymouth.

There was also in Plymouth a community of Carmelites, or "*White Friars*." Bishop Stapeldon licensed their establishment there by his letters of 28. September, 1314, at the desire of King Edward II. In fol. 48. vol. 1. of Bishop Brantyngham's Register, we read that their Prior, Henry Sutton, was excommunicated for presuming to absolve in a reserved case. This convent continues to give its name to a street and lane in its vicinity.

## TAVISTOCK ABBEY.\*

**T**HIS illustrious Abbey, dedicated to the Blessed Virgin and St. Rumon,† Bishop and Confessor, was begun by Ordgar, Earl of Devon, in 961, and completed by his son Ordulph. About thirty-six years after its foundation, it was burnt and destroyed by the Danish invaders during the calamitous reign of King Ethelred. But it soon rose, a Phoenix from its ashes; and though not so opulent as the Priory of Plympton, yet it was far superior in point of dignity and of local situation; and it eclipsed every religious house in Devonshire, in the extent, convenience and magnificence of its buildings. The Kings of England, from the conquest at least, were reputed its founders and patrons.

## ABBOTS OF TAVISTOCK.

A. D.

1. *Almer*, who is described in the cartulary of the abbey as a good scholar, and exemplary for his piety to God and charity to man. He was doomed to witness the utter destruction of his monastery by the Danish invaders. How long he survived this catastrophe is uncertain.

2. *Livingus*. He was originally a Monk of St. Swithin's monastery at Winchester. His benefactions and services to Tavistock Abbey, entitle him to the name of its second founder. "Per Ordga-

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\* Arms of the abbey—Vair, Or & Azure: on a Chief of the first, two Mulletts Gules.

† St. Rumon's festival was celebrated at Tavistock, on the 4th of January, with a fair of three days. This Saint was an Irish Bishop. The history of his life had perished before William of Malmesbury's time: probably before the Danish invasions. Vid. Gul. Malmesb. de Gest. Pont. Angl. Lib. 2. There was a Saint Rumold, Bishop of Dublin, afterwards first Bishop of Mechlin, who was murdered by two assassins, in the year 775. See Sir James Ware's Hist. of the Bishops of Ireland. Edit. Dublin, 1739. p. 305. There is no other Irish Bishop, mentioned by Sir James, of a name any thing like Rumon.

rum surgendi exordium, per Livingum Episcopum crescendi accepit auspicium."--Wil. Malmes. In 1032 he was promoted to the See of *Crediton*. On the death of his uncle *Brithwold*, the Bishop of *Cornwall*, he succeeded in uniting that diocese in perpetuity to his own See. In 1038 King Harold appointed him to the bishopric of Worcester, which he continued to hold, with *Crediton*, until his death, on Sunday, 23. March, 1046. He was buried at *Tavistock*.

3. *Aldred*, a Monk of Winchester, succeeded Livingus, first as Abbot of *Tavistock*, and secondly as Bishop of Worcester. In 1060 he was translated to York, where he sat until his death, on 11. September,

1069

4. *Sistricus*, who died in the spring of

1082

5. *Gaufred I.*, who died in

1088

6. *Wymond*. He was deposed by St. Anselm, for simony, in 1102.—See *Eadmeri Hist. fo. 67*.

7. *Osbert* was Abbot in 1109.\*

8. *Gaufred II.* was the next Abbot.

9. *Robert de Plympton*, who is supposed to have died in

1145

10. *Robert Postett*, who was Abbot nine years.

11. *Walter*, who is said to have died in

1174

12. *Baldwin*.

13. *Stephen*.

14. *Herbert*. To this Abbot, Pope Celestine II. addressed a bull of privileges, on 29. May, —See 2. *Regist. Veysey. fo. 41*.

1193

15. *Jordan* was appointed, I believe, in

1204

16. *William de Kernil*, Prior of *Ottertun*, was elected *Jordan's* successor, in 1220. He held his dignity four years.

17. *John*.

18. *Alan de Cornwall*, who died in

1248

19. *Robert de Kitecnol*.

20. *Thomas*, who died in

1257

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\* We have to regret the very jejune and imperfect account of the following Abbots, until the accession of Philip Trentheful, in 1259, when we take for our guide the registers of the Exeter Bishops.

21. *John de Northampton*, who presided during two years

22. *Philip Twenheful*, a Monk of St. Swithun's Monastery, at Winchester, was confirmed the next Abbot, in Oct. 1259

He made his profession to Bishop Bronescombe, in the following words :—vid. Regist. fo. 8. "Ego frater Philippus, electus Abbas Ecclesie de Tavistock, promitto tibi, Pater Dñe Waltere Exon Epe, tuisque successoribus canonicè intronizandis & Sancte Exoniensis Ecclesie, fidem & canonicam per omnia subjectionem."

23. *Alured*, confirmed Abbot on the 29. Sept. 1260  
N B. Fecit professionem quam obtulit super principale Altare. Regist. Bronescombe.

24. *John Chubbe* succeeded, but was deposed by Bishop Bronescombe, in crastino Sancti Edmundi Regis & Martyris, (21. Nov.) 1269

The Bishop describes him as "Monasterii bonorum dilapidator intolerabilis & manifestus," reprobates his scandalous neglect of religious discipline, and enumerates instances of his savage violence, and even sacrilege.

25. *Robert*, who was substituted in the place of John Chubbe, on Palm Sunday, 1270

26. *Robert Champeaux aliter Campell*, succeeded in 1285

This Abbot is highly commended for his tender piety and zeal for improvement. During his government, several parts of the Abbey were re-built, but particularly the conventual church, which is said to have been 378 feet long, without including the Lady's chapel. Bishop Stapeldon dedicated this noble church and two altars in the nave, on the 21. Aug. 1318. It was finally taken down in 1670.

On the 21. May, the same year, the Bishop had dedicated St. Eustachius' parish church, at Tavistock, which adjoined to the abbey inclosure.

This amiable and benevolent Abbot, with the consent of his convent, A.D. 1291, appropriated,

for ever, the whole profits arising from an estate called Westlydeton (granted two years before to his abbey, by Sir Odo Le Arcedeakne), to the providing of the poor with clothes and shoes; the annual distribution of which was made in the cloisters, on the 2. November, the commemoration of all the Faithful departed.

In consequence of this Abbot's petition, Bishop Stapeldon approved and confirmed a perpetual chantry, to be erected in the parish church of Whitechurch, near Tavistock, for four Priests, who should be bound to celebrate the daily and nightly office, together with the service for the dead; to say three, or at least two, Requiem masses every day, besides one of our Lady. In their suffrages, they were to pray for the prosperity of the said Abbot and convent; for King Edward II. and his Queen Isabella; for the Bishop, Dean and Chapter of Exeter; and for the founders and benefactors of Tavistock Abbey. The Superior of these Priests was to be called the Arch-priest; he was to live in common with them; and they were to be called his Socii, or Fellows. He was also to be charged with the care of the parishioners.—Vid. Stapeldon's Regist. fo. 165.

N.B. The famous charter, "*De Libertatibus Comitatus Devon*," granted by King John, and its confirmation by his son, Henry III., were preserved in Tavistock Abbey. Bishop Stapeldon took copies of these originals, and has inserted them fo. 152. of his register.\*

22. *Robert Bonus* inducted 13. June, 1328  
on the recommendation of Pope John XXII.

N. B. Bishop Grandisson deposed this Abbot, for contumacy and intemperate behaviour, 24. October,

23. *John de Courienay*, substituted for Robert, 1333  
24. April, 1334

N. B. This Abbot had very little of the spirit of a religious man. He was passionately fond

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\* Chapple, in p. 52. of his Review of Risdon, has given incorrect copies of these charters. Faithful transcripts may be seen (h) Appendix.

of field sports, was very conceited and foppish in his dress, and a most incurable spendthrift. During his government, discipline seems to have been banished from the convent. Frequently but two of the community were present at the regular meals in the refectory, whilst the rest were feasting sumptuously in their private chambers. From the neglect of repairs, the monastery was falling into a dilapidated state; and, moreover, was overcharged with debts. "Monasterium, quod solebat abundare divitiis & honore, erat & est oneribus debitorum usque ad MCCC libras sterlingorum & aliorum multiplicium onerum sarcina pregravatum."—Vid. 1. Regist. Grandisson, fo. 134. II. Idem. fo. 217. 12. Sept. and 14. Oct. 1345.

29. *Richard de Esse* succeeded in 1348

30. *Stephen Langdon* succeeded in 1362

31. *Thomas Cullyng*, confirmed as Abbot on the 12. February, 1380-1

I believe this Abbot finished the campanile of the church, begun by his predecessor.  
He died 11 June,

32. *John May*, confirmed as his successor 30. July, 1402

He died 7. February, 1421-2

33. *Thomas Mede*, elected 26 March, and confirmed by Bishop Lacy, 19. April, 1422

N. B. This Abbot is accused of neglecting regular discipline, of enormous dilapidations, and of simony; but the charge appears to be exaggerated.

34. *Thomas Cryspyn*, elected 11. June, 1442  
His death happened 5. April, 1447

35. *William Pewe*, elected 2. May, 1447  
confirmed Abbot 23d of that month, and died 26. Dec. 1450

36. *John Dynnyngton* was elected to succeed William, on the 27th of the following January, and was confirmed by Bishop Lacy, 20. February.

N. B. It appears, from 2. Rymer's *Fœdera*, p. 408. that this Abbot obtained a papal

grant to use the pontificals and to give the episcopal benediction at mass and at table.

37. *Richard*, whose institution is not recorded in the registers.

38. *Richard Yerne*. I can find no date of his confirmation.

39. *Richard Bankam*, the date of whose election or confirmation I have not succeeded in discovering. King Henry VIII. created him a Mitred Abbot, 22. Jan. 1513. Appendix (i). It may be observed here, that these parliamentary Abbots ranked among themselves in the Upper House, according to seniority of creation.

The contest which this Abbot maintained with Bishop Oldam has been variously related; but the following facts, extracted from that Bishop's Register, may be depended upon:—

This Abbot was cited, 15. April, 1513, to appear before Dr. Richard Collet, the Bishop's commissioner, to answer to the charge of contempt of episcopal authority. The Abbot, instead of explaining the occasion of his conduct, or offering any apology, produced a written appeal to the Roman Court. The appeal was declared, by the commissioner, to be frivolous and inadmissible. For his obstinacy, the Abbot was suspended that very day; and, on the 22nd of the same month was excommunicated, "propter multiplicem contumaciam." On the 10. May he appeared in person before Bishop Oldam, at the palace in Exeter; and on his bended knees most humbly and most earnestly intreated to be absolved from his censures; and offered to submit himself, unconditionally, to the Bishop's correction. The Bishop then tendered the oath of submission to the See of Exeter, and, after he had taken it, absolved him from his censures; whereupon the Abbot paid him down five pounds of gold.

The repentance of the Abbot seems to have been insincere; for, soon after, he appealed to the Primate, William Warham, and to Richard Fitz-James, Bishop of London. The question



chiefly turned on the right of episcopal visitation. These Prelates decided, on the 8th of February following, that the Abbot had not produced any indults, bulls, or vouchers, authorising any exemption from the jurisdiction of the Ordinary; they therefore decreed, that he and his convent should submit to this regularly constituted authority, as their predecessors had done from time immemorial; they recommended to the Abbot to apply to his Bishop for the benefit of absolution; and they directed the Bishop to confer it without hesitation, and to treat the Abbot with mildness and paternal affection.—So far, Oldam's Register.

This Abbot was not discouraged by defeat. From the Primate he appealed to the Court of Rome; and at last succeeded in obtaining, from Pope Leo X. a bull of such ample and extraordinary privileges, as completely to indemnify him for his former expences and trouble. This bull is dated 14. September 1517, and is copied in the appendix, (\*) from the 2. vol. of Bishop Veysey's Register. It expressly exempts the Abbey of Tavistock, with its several dependencies, from all archiepiscopal, and all episcopal jurisdiction, visitation and superiority; and takes it and them under the sole and immediate protection of the Holy See. It declares, that all suspensions, interdicts, and excommunications pronounced against them by any other authority than that of the See Apostolic, are absolutely void and null; "nulla, irrita et invalida, nulliusque roboris vel momenti." As an acknowledgment for such sweeping liberality, the Abbot was annually to pay to the Apostolic Chamber, on the Feast of SS. Peter and Paul, half an ounce of gold, (i. e.) twenty shillings of lawful money of England.

40. *John Peryn*, it is said, succeeded in Dec. 1523. But his confirmation is not recorded in Bishop Veysey's Registers. In virtue of the bull of Pope Leo X. I observe that this Abbot styles himself, in several leases before me, "Abbas ex-

*empti Monasterii Beate Marie & Sci Rumonis de Tavystock.*" On the surrender of his monastery, he was granted a pension of £100 per annum. Nineteen of his Religious obtained salaries at the same time. The grants of these pensions are dated 26. April, 31 Hen. VIII., and are as follows:—

	£.	s.	d.
To Abbot John Peryn .....	100	0	0
Robert Walsh .....	10	0	0
John Carter .....	8	0	0
John Harrys .....	8	0	0
William Chester .....	6	13	4
John Axworige .....	6	13	4
John Puxeley .....	6	13	4
Richard Wakeham .....	6	0	0
William Peke .....	6	0	0
William Willyams .....	6	0	0
Richard Gregory .....	6	0	0
William Growdon .....	6	0	0
Stephen Bemell .....	6	0	0
John Abraham .....	5	6	8
John Benett ....	5	6	8
Edmund Peryn .....	5	6	8
Nicholas Buckfastre .....	5	6	8
William Lechedon .....	5	6	8
Robert Heron .....	4	13	4
Richard Peke .....	2	0	0
John Wele .....	2	0	0

The revenues of this abbey were rated at £902 5. 7. per annum.

In the *Taxatio Bonorum Ecclesiasticorum*, I read as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Abbas de Tavistock percipit de Ecclesiis de			
Rame, Seyak et Anton .....	0	8	0
De capellis de Wolrington & Sci Egidii .....	2	0	0
Item habet Manerium de Herwyk, val.....	10	15	10
Manerium de Tavistock .....	6	0	4
Piscaria apud-que tax .....	1	0	0
Maner de Midelton & Legh .....	7	10	0
Apud Morewel .....	2	10	0
Maner de Wolrinton .....	11	15	0

	£	s.	d.
Maner de Hatherlegh.....	9	5	6
Maner de Abbotesham .....	6	3	4
Maner de Borington.....	5	10	6
Maner de Deneneburi .....	3	8	0
Maner de Wicceham cum redd de Tavy Sci Petri.....	2	2	6
Maner de Plymstok .....	5	3	4

The scite of this great abbey and the principal part of its estates, were granted by King Henry VIII. on the 4th of July, 31st year of his reign, to John Lord Russell. Appendix (l) .

The Abbot's residence in Exeter occupied the scite of those premises in South-street, now in the possession of Mr. Russell. I have met with a lease (dated 7. Nov. a few months before the dissolution of the abbey,) by which John, the last Abbot, let the said dwelling-house to Edward Brydgeman, and Jane his wife, for the term of sixty years: "hospicii nostri vocati Le Inne de Bere cum omnibus suis pertinenciis in vico Australi Civitatis Exon." Quere, Was this the house mentioned in the Domesday as being mortgaged to the abbey by a citizen of Exeter?

After the suppression of the abbey a chapel was erected within its inclosure, and licensed for the celebration of divine worship, at the request of the noble Lady Dorothy Mountjoy, on the 10th March, 1541-2.—Vid. Regist. Veysey, fo. 109.

The registers mention a priory in St. Mary's, the principal of the Scylly Islands, as being dependant on Tavistock Abbey.

Bishop Brantingham, 26. September, 1374, granted an indulgence of twenty days to all persons within the diocese of Exeter "Penitentibus & Confessis," who should contribute to the support of the Lepers' House, dedicated to St. Mary Magdalene, at Tavistock.

There was a chapel of St. Margaret near the town of Tavistock.—Vid, 3. Regist. Lacy, fo. 53.

Also, a chapel of St. John the Baptist, juxta aquam de Tavy in Parochia de Tavystock.—Ibid. fo. 128.

## \*FORD ABBEY.

**BALDWIN** de BRIONIIS, (so called from a place in Normandy,) for his signal services to William the Conqueror, was created Earl of Oakhampton, and rewarded with very large possessions in the county of Devon.\* This nobleman married Albreda, the Conqueror's niece; and the fruit of this marriage was a son called Richard, and a daughter named Adelicia. Richard succeeded to his father's honors and estates. In the year 1132 he founded a house for Cistercians, at Brightley, in the parish of Sampford Courtenay, and procured a colony of twelve Monks, and a Superior, called Richard, from Waverley Abbey, in the county of Surrey. Scarcely had they taken possession of this new establishment when their founder and benefactor was snatched away by death. The convent was situated in a desert and barren spot; the community was destitute and friendless; and after mature deliberation, they unanimously agreed to abandon Brightley, and to return to Waverley. They had actually commenced their journey, when Adelicia, now sole heiress to her brother's extensive possessions, in compassion to their forlorn condition, presented them with the manor of Thorncombe, and built them a house at Hartescath, which was completed in 1142, and was dedicated to our Lady. The spot on which the abbey was erected

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\* Q.—What were the arms of this Abbey.

\* See Domesday: also Cleaveland's History of the Courtenay Family, a work of considerable merit. This learned and diligent writer derived much assistance from Bouchet's "*Histoire Genealogique de la Maison de Courtenay*," fol. Paris 1800.

was soon after called Ford, from its contiguity to a ford, a passage through the river Axe.

By descent from the founder's family, the Courtenays became the natural and legal protectors and patrons of the abbey; they considered it, says Cleaveland, p. 128. as a most beautiful feather in their train; and many of them chose its precincts for the place of their interment.

The following is the completest series of its Abbots that I can recover:—

A. D.  
1132

1. *Richard*, appointed

2. *Robert de Penington*.

3. *Baldwin*. He was a native of Exeter, and of the lowest extraction. Bartholomew, Bishop of Exeter, and an excellent judge and encourager of merit, was struck with his disposition for piety and learning, and became his patron and friend. Under such auspices, Baldwin could not but succeed. The Bishop made him his Archdeacon, and the highest honors in the church opened to his view, when he took the determination of becoming a Religious. His inclinations led him to the Cistercian Order, then in high repute for fervor and austerity of life. He was professed in the abbey of Ford; and after a few years was chosen the Superior of this community. A short time after, he was raised to the dignity of Bishop of Worcester. He governed that See about three years, when he was translated to Canterbury at the very time that his venerable patron, Bishop Bartholomew, was closing a life full of days and meritorious actions. Seven years after, the Archbishop died in the Holy Land, where he had followed his Sovereign, Richard I.—Vid. Actus Pontif. Cantuariore Gervasio. in Wharton's *Anglia Sacra*.

4. *Robert*.

5. *John*, commonly called Devonius. He was the friend and confessor of King John, and had the reputation of being a consummate divine. Under him, says Fuller, p. 263. of his *Worthies*,

Ford Abbey had more learning than three convents of the same bigness any wherè in England. See also Risdon's Survey of Devon, and Prince's Worthies. "Floruit circa hunc annum Mauritius Somerset, è Cœnobio Fordensi in Devoniâ Cisterciensis, cujus Sôdâlitii *scriptor primus* apud Oxonienses emersit."--Wood Hist. & Antiq. 1194 Oxon. Lib. 1. p. 57.

This respectable Abbot died 1220

6. Roger, who resigned in 1236

7. John de Warwick, who died in 1246

8. Adam.

9. William de Crikè, of whom I find the following particulars in Bishop Bronescombe's Register :

On Pentecost Eve, A. D. 1276, Bishop Bronescombe excommunicated this Abbot, "propter manifestas offensas & multiplicatas contumacias:" (vid. Mo. 72.) and this sentence was ordered to be read in the cathedral church, and in all conventual, collegiate and parish churches in the city and diocese of Exeter, with the accustomed ceremonies. Bronescombe notified the excommunication to the Bishop of Bath and Wells, and requested him to publish it in his diocese; he also sent information of these proceedings to King Edward I., and invoked the assistance of the secular power to punish the Abbot's contempt and rebellion. Indeed the Abbot had proceeded to the unjustifiable length of excommunicating his Bishop in several parts of the diocese:

The King appointed Walter Stamel, Dean of Sarum, and Thomas Weke, Archdeacon of Dorset, professors of canon and civil law, to decide their controversy. On the 22d October 1276, these ecclesiastical Judges held their first sitting at Westminster. The Abbot declared his repentance, and his readiness to pay down £500, if such sum should be required by the Court; but the Judges deferred giving any opinion until after the following Easter, although they were urgently requested, by Bishop

Bronescombe, to decide immediately, as is attested by William, Bishop of Landaff, Henry Kilkenny, Canon of Exeter Cathedral, and several others.—Vid. fo. 75. of the same Register.

In the meanwhile, the Abbot most anxiously implored the King to prevent the secular power from being directed against him; he maintained, that the censures of his Bishop were absolutely null and void, as his convent was specially exempted by papal indulgences from any episcopal jurisdiction; he represented the very considerable injury already sustained by himself and his convent, and declares that certain ruin awaits them, unless his Majesty shall interpose in their favor.

At last (fo. 79.) the parties agreed, by an indenture dated at Westminster, 5. May 1277, absolutely to abide by the decision of the above-mentioned Judges, under a penalty of £100, to be forfeited to the obedient, by the refractory, party. On the same day, the final sentence was passed,—viz. that the Abbot should recal the sentences of excommunication, in the very places where he had fulminated them against his Bishop—that he should pronounce them to have been absolutely null and void—that he, his Monks and dependents should proceed, on the ensuing feast of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist, from the gate of St. Peter's cemetery, in Exeter, to the entrance door of St. Peter's Church, bareheaded, barefooted and loosely dressed, and there receive a discipline, either from the Bishop or his deputy; & that the Abbot should further pay, for himself and convent, one thousand marks. The Bishop is then enjoined to revoke, without any difficulty, all his censures against the Abbot and convent; to remit nine hundred of the said marks; the payment of the remaining hundred marks to be made by the Abbot, to the Bishop or his proxy, in the cathedral church, in equal portions, on the next festival days of Michaelmas and Easter; and, with the exception of the discipline, excepta

disciplinâ, the Bishop is directed to dispense with the rest of the penance.

10. *Nicholaus*, confirmed Abbot 1 Jan. 1283-4

11. *Henry* occurs Abbot in 1312

12. *William*, confirmed Abbot 22. Sept. 1319

N. B. The following was his formula of obedience to Bishop Stapeldon :—

“Ego frater Willelmus Abbas de Fordâ, subjectionem, reverentiam & obedientiam a Sanctis Patribus constitutam secundum regulam Sei Benedicti, tibi, Domine Episcopo, tuisque successoribus canonicè substituendis & Sancte Sedi Exon, salvo ordine meo, perpetuò me exhibiturum, promitto.”

13. *John*, admitted Abbot 24. June, 1328

14. *Adam*, confirmed 29. September, 1354

N. B. After his profession of obedience to Bishop Grandisson, “subscripsit signum crucis.”

15. *Chylheglys* occurs Abbot in Bishop Brantyngham's Register, 1373

16. *Walter Burstok*, confirmed 16. April, 1378

N. B. To his profession of obedience, “manu suâ subscripsit Amen.”

This Walter was alive in 1411.

17. *Richard*, I believe, was his successor.

18. *Elyas* occurs Abbot in 1462

19 *William Whyte* appears as Abbot 1491

20. *Thomas Charde*, alias *Tybbes*, was the last Abbot: he surrendered his convent 8. March 1539.—Vid. 2. B. Willis', Hist. Ab. p. 51.

Cleaveland informs us, p. 120. that he was born at Tracy, in the parish of Auliscombe, and educated in St. Bernard's, now St. John Baptist's, College, at Oxford, and that he took the degree of D. D. on the 2. Oct. 1505: being styled in the public register “Vir doctrinâ & virtute clarus.”

I may add, that he was made a titular or suffragan Bishop, under the name of Episcopus Solubricensis, and became coadjutor to Bishop Oldam.—See the Register. He was still alive in 1543.

The following pensions were granted to the Religious, 12. May, 31. Hen. VIII :—



	£	s.	d.
To Thomas Chard, alias Tybbes,			
the Abbot, S. T. P.....	80	0	0
Richard Exmestre, alias Were,	8	0	0
John Bridgewater, alias Stone,	8	0	0
W. Sherburn, alias Rede .....	8	0	0
Eliseus Clestina, alias Potter,	7	0	0
Robert Ilminster.....	7	0	0
John Cosyns .....	6	13	4
William Green .....	5	6	8
Thomas Stafforde, alias Bate,	5	6	8
John Fawell .....	5	6	8
William Wynsor, alias Hyde...	5	0	0
William Donyngton, alias Wil-			
teshere ....	5	0	0
Richd. Kyngesbury, alias Sher-			
man .....	5	0	0

The annual revenues of Ford Abbey amounted,  
according to Dugdale, to ..... £374 10 6½  
According to Speed, to ..... 381 10 6

In various leases that I have seen, frequent men-  
tion is made of their property in Burstok, Pay-  
hembury, Charmouth, Toller Porcorum, Turneworth  
and Strete.

The Taxatio contains the following particulars:—

ABBAS DE FORDE HABET.

	£	s.	d.
Manerium de Orchererd tax ad .....	5	6	8
Apud Westword ... ..	2	13	5
Apud Stoneberge .....	2	13	4
Apud Brouygesheg que tax ad .....	0	14	2
De redd in dictis locis cu Mol .....	5	10	0
De exit Stauri & pquisitis ....	2	0	0
Apud Colebrok de redd.....	2	0	0
Apud Thale que tax .....	4	16	8
Apud Lynton & Chutebere que tax ad .....	5	10	0
Summa	£31	4	4
Decime	£3	2	4

The scite of this abbey was granted to Richard

Pollard, Esq. A copy of the grant is given in the appendix. (*m*) Sir John, the son of this Richard, alienated the same to Sir Amias Paulet, whose father, Sir Hugh Paulet, had been appointed head steward of the abbey by the last Abbot, on 4. Mar. Hen. VIII. with a pension of 100s. Sir Amias disposed of it to William Roswell, Esq. from whose family it passed to the Prideauxes. At present it is in possession of the Gwynnes.

The original common seal of the Cistercian Order in England and Wales, is still in existence, and in perfect preservation. It is circular—has a church engraven upon it, and bears a shield, containing the arms of Bindon Abbey, in Dorsetshire. The inscription runs thus:—"Sigillu: coe: Capli: genalis: Ordis: Cistercien: in: Angl: et: Wall:?"

## \*NEWENHAM ABBEY.

**T**HIS Cistercian abbey, situated near the river Exe, and at a short distance from Axminster, was founded by Reginald de Mohun, Earl of Somerset, in honor of our Lady, about the year 1246. Richard Blondy, Bishop of Exeter, performed the ceremony of its dedication, and ranks as a leading benefactor to the infant establishment. From Beaulieu, in the New Forest, a monastery erected and endowed by King John, about forty years before, the Earl obtained a colony of Cistercian Monks, for his new foundation. The charter of King Henry III. and the list of benefactors, may be seen in 1. Dugd. Monast. p. 93.

I believe the following to be an accurate list of the Abbots:—

- |   | A. D. |
|---|-------|
| 1. <i>John Goddard</i> , instituted 6. January  | 1246  |
| He resigned 4. April, 1248.   |       |
| 2. <i>Henry de Spersholt</i> succeeded twelve days after.   |       |
| He resigned 3. May,   | 1253  |
| 3. <i>John de Ponte Roberti</i> succeeded, but continued in office a few months only.                         |       |
| 4. <i>Galpidus de Blancheville</i> , confirmed Abbot before the end of 1253, and was Abbot nearly nine years. |       |

N. B. He entirely re-built the abbey church, which, according to William of Worcester's Survey (temp. Hen. VI.) was two hundred feet long; length of the transverse aisle one hundred and fifty two feet; length of the choir eighty feet.

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\* Q.—What were the arms of this Abbey.

5. *Hugh de Cokeswell*, elected his successor  
14. June, 1262  
He resigned three years after.
6. *John de Northampton*, next governed the  
abbey, and resigned 11. September, 1272
7. *William of Cornwall* was chosen to suc-  
ceed John ; but laid down his office, after hold-  
ing it sixteen years.
8. *Richard de Chichester*, elected Abbot 13.  
September, 1288  
He was deposed 15. October, 1292
9. *Richard de Pedirton*, appointed his suc-  
cessor 11. November, that year.  
He resigned 7. April, 1297
10. *William de Frið* was elected to succeed  
him within a week after, and resigned in 1303
11. *Ralph de Shaperville* was the next Abbot,  
and resigned his office with his life in 1314
12. *Robert de Pupplesbury*, was voted his  
successor 30. Sept. same year.  
He resigned 12. May, 1321
13. *John de Cokyswell* succeeded on the  
ensuing Feast of the Purification.  
He vacated his office by death, 26. December, 1324
14. *John de Geytingtone*, instituted 17. of the  
following March.
- N. B. He was Abbot fourteen years, and  
greatly improved his monastery. He built the  
cloister next to the infirmary and lavatory, and  
began a new hall, which was finished by his suc-  
cessor.
15. *Waltre de la House*, confirmed 31. May, 1338
16. *Richard Branescombe*, admitted 7.  
March, 1361
17. *John Legga*, instituted 24. September, 1391  
On which occasion, he subscribed to his pro-  
fession of obedience to Bishop Brantyngham,  
"hoc signum faciendo †."
18. *Leonard Houndaller*.
19. *Nicholas Wysbech*, confirmed 29. Oct. 1413
20. *Trystram Crukerne*, succeeded 27. July, 1432
21. *William Huntford*, admitted 7. Sept. 1456
22. *John Ellys*, instituted 23. July, 1512

A. D.

23. *John Hamster*, alias *Cabell*, admitted 3. August, 1525

24. *Richard Gyll*, the last Abbot, confirmed in his dignity by Bishop Veysey, 12. February. 1530

The following pensions were granted to the under-written Religious, 6. May, 31. Hen. VIII.

	£.	s.	d.
To Richard Gyll, Abbot, per an....	44	0	0
Richard Alforde .....	4	13	4
W <sup>h</sup> . Westminster, alias Faute...	6	0	0
William Pede.....	5	6	8
Thomas White .....	5	6	8
Thomas Male.....	5	0	0
John Poper.....	5	0	0
John Pythe .....	4	14	4

The annual revenues of the abbey amounted to £231. 14. 4.

In the Taxatio of King Edward I. is the following statement of its property:—

ABBAS DE NEWENHAM HABET

	£.	s.	d.
Manerium de Axmenstr tax ad .....	12	8	4
Manerium de Plenent & Northam in Cornubia .....	13	12	0

Summa 26 0 4

Decima 2 12 0½

In several leases before me, I observe frequent mention is made of certain tenements lying in the parishes of St. Lawrence and St. Mary Major, Exeter, which belonged to this abbey. The Abbot's town-house in Exeter, was nearly opposite St. John's Hospital, in the eastern corner of the entrance from Fore-street into Castle-street. Until very lately, the remains of a magnificent building were observable there.

In vol. 1. Grandisson's Register, fo. 4. it is stated, that Pope Alexander IV. (between the years 1254 and 1261) appropriated to Newenham Abbey the church of Lovepit, or Luppit, in the deanery of Dunkeswell.

From different passages in the registers, it appears that the abbey pretended a claim to the church of Axminster, which was the cause of much litigation. But the claim was protested against by the Rectors, and rejected by the Bishops. The living, at least for a considerable period, was in the gift of the Bishop: still, however, two Prebends in Axminster Church, called Warthell and Greendale, belonged to St. Peter's Church, in the city of York. Bishop Stapeldon, in fo. 153. of his Register, acquaints us, that they had formerly been annexed to that cathedral, by one of the Kings of England.

Axminster fair was held on the Vigil and on the Feast of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist, as I find in an ancient lease. The profits of this fair are reserved by the Abbot to himself and his convent; but he leases out the profits of the market, (*mercati nostri de Axminstre*) for the annual consideration of LXs.

From a careful inspection of the ground, of the ruins, and dismantled remains of this interesting abbey, I think it easy to trace out the scite of the church,\* the chapter-house, and the cloister quadrangle.

In the fifth year of Queen Elizabeth the fee of the abbey was granted to Thomas, Duke of Norfolk. His son, Lord William Howard, disposed of it to Sir John Petre, who was created a Baron, 1. Jac. I. In his family the possession still continues.

In (n) of the appendix, is copied the grant of an annual pension to the collegiate church at Ottery, by Walter Howse, the fifteenth Abbot of Newenham, A. D. 1344.

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\* Amongst other great families who chose this sacred edifice for the place of their interment, was the Bonville family, of Shute. Sir William Bonville's will, written in French, bearing date Saturday before the Feast of the Assumption, A. D. 1407, is preserved in Stafford's Register. He directs his body to be buried at Newenham, and bequeaths to the Abbey £40.

## TOR ABBEY.\*

**ST. NORBERT** founded the † Premonstratensian Order, A. D. 1121. Soon after, a colony of his Religious came into England. Their first establishment was at Newhus, in Lincolnshire; and in the space of a century the piety of Englishmen provided for no fewer than thirty-two houses of this celebrated order.

Of all these houses, the one at Torre, dedicated to the honor of the Holy Saviour, the Holy Trinity and the Blessed Virgin, was undoubtedly the richest. It was the noble foundation of William Lord Brewer, a great counsellor of state in the reigns of Richard and John. To the canons of this house, he granted, A. D. 1196, the lands of Torre, where the church of the Holy Saviour then stood; also the free fishery of Torbay, the church of Tor, ‡ and the town of Woolborough, with the advowson of that church; also his lands at Grendall, and many other possessions specified in the foundation deed, to be seen 2. Dugd. Monast. p. 652.

Nothing can exceed the beautiful situation of this great abbey; and if we may judge by the remains of the church, of the chapter-house, and other buildings, the magnificence of the fabric did honour to the situation. When Leland visited the abbey, three fair gateways were standing.||

\* Arms. Gules a Chevron between three Crosiers Or.

† So called from the lonesome valley Premontrè, in the diocese of Laon, where the saint erected his first monastery. His rule was very severe: the use of linen was prohibited; and perpetual abstinence from flesh was enjoined.

‡ Q. Is the parish church dedicated to the Holy Saviour? The ancient and curious chapel on the hill was dedicated to St. Michael, and not to our Lady, as is sometimes asserted. Was it built by Reginald de Mohun, 25. Hen. III. ? — Vid. 2. Dugd. Monast. p. 654.

|| One gateway remains. The arms of the Brewers', Mohuns', Spekes, and of the Abbey, appear in the Arch.

The church was richly furnished with cloth of gold, with copes and other ecclesiastical ornaments, as appears from Bishop Grandisson's letter, in vol. 1. of his Register, fo. 56. "pannis aureis & capis," &c.

The Rev. Joseph Reeve, in his classical poem, entitled *Ugbrooke Park*, has thus described the present state of the abbey, in the glowing language of poetry, and with the feelings of a Christian philosopher.

Though hallowed mitres glitter here no more,  
The friendly abbey still adorns the shore :  
Here meek religion's ancient temple rose,  
How great, how fallen, the mournful ruin shews.  
Of sacrilege, behold, what heaps appear !  
Nor blush to drop the tributary tear  
Here stood the font—here on high columns rais'd,  
The dome extended—there the altar blaz'd  
The shatter'd aisles, with clust'ring ivy hung,  
The yawning arch in rude confusion flung :  
Sad striking remnants of a former age,  
To pity now might melt the spoiler's rage !  
Lo sunk to rest, the wearied vot'ry sleeps,  
While o'er his urn the gloomy cypress weeps.  
Here silent pause—here draw the pensive sigh—  
Here musing learn to live, here learn to die!!!

I fear it is impossible to recover the complete series of the Abbots. Browne Willis, 2. *Hist. Abb.* p. 65. informs us, that the first Abbot's name was *Adam*. In the agreement with Reginald de Mohun, A. D. 1251. Simon occurs Abbot, *ib.* p. 654. From the registers of the See of Exeter I collect the names of the fourteen following:—

	A. D .
1. <i>Brianus</i> , confirmed Abbot by Bishop Bro-nescombe, on Whit Sunday,	1264
2. <i>Richard</i> , admitted by the same Bishop on Ascension-day,	1270
3. <i>Simon de Plympton</i> , instituted by Bishop Grandisson 7. September,	1330
4. <i>John</i> , confirmed 21. May,	1349
5. <i>John Cras</i> succeeded 6. December,	1351
N. B. Comparel. Grandisson's Regist. fo. 109. with fo. 161.	
6. <i>Richard</i> , the date of whose institution I have not yet discovered.	



7. *John Berkedene* occurs in A. D.  
1372  
8. *William Norton*, confirmed 27. July, 1382

N. B. This exemplary Abbot was maliciously charged with having murdered and beheaded Simon Hastings, a Canon of the abbey. Bishop Brantyngham, on 14. August, 1390, pronounced the accusation to be a most infamous falsehood. He declares, that the Canon, said to be murdered and beheaded, was then actually alive. He bears the strongest testimony to the irreproachable character of the Abbot, and issues the sentence of excommunication against his defamers. Vid. 1. Regist. fo. 211.

9. *Matthew Verde*, succeeded 19. July, 1412  
10. *William Mychel*, confirmed 19. March, 1413-4  
11. *John Lacey*, instituted 31. January, 1442  
12. *Richard Cade* occurs Abbot in 1463  
13. *Thomas Dyare* occurs in 1502  
14. *Simon Rede*, elected and confirmed in August, 1523

This was the last Abbot, and he surrendered his monastery, with fifteen of his Religious, 23. Feb. 1539. If I may judge from the tenor of several of his leases, he calculated on the speedy dissolution of the abbey, and was not unmindful of his own interests.

He was still alive in 1553.

The following pensions were granted 25. April, 31. Hen. VIII.—

	£	s.	d.
To Simon Rede, the Abbot, pr. an.	66	13	4
Richard Mylton.....	7	0	0
John Asterege .....	6	0	0
Henry Bagwell .....	6	0	0
John Shapeley .....	4	0	0
John Lane.....	4	0	0
John Wyll.....	5	0	0
Thomas Jamys .....	5	0	0
Thomas Lawdymere,..	5	0	0
Thomas Clement .....	5	0	0
John Payne .....	5	0	0
Thomas Brygeman .....	2	0	0
Thomas Emet.....	2	0	0

	£.	s.	d.
John Ffermer .....	2	0	0
Thomas Knolle .....	2	0	0
Richard Yong .....	2	0	0

The annual revenues of the abbey amounted to £396. 0. 11.

In the Taxatio of Edward I. I meet with the following statement:—

ABBAS DE TORRE HABET

	£	s.	d.
Apud Wolleburgh que tax .....	4	4	8
Tunstall & Aueton .....	3	13	4
Apud Ffede... ..	0	11	8
Apud Helgrug de Redd.....	1	0	0
Apud Gormingeston .....	3	0	0
Apud Grendell .....	3	1	0
Apud Shillingford .....	2	4	8
Apud Dabecombe .....	2	15	0
Apud Illesham .....	1	15	0
Apud Coleton .....	1	5	0
Summa .....	£23	11	0
Decima .....	£2	7	1

In numerous leases, granted by this abbey, I observe, mention is made of the manors of Torre, Woolborough, Dacombe, Buckland Brewer, Aysheclyst, Shyllingford, Blakeauton, and Grendal. They had also possessions in Kingsware, Newton Abbot, Dartmouth, Coleton, Ilsham, &c.; and presented to the churches of Cockington, Tunstall, Tor, Brade-worthy, Boclond Brewer, Scheftsbeare, Hanok, Scytesbrok, Blakeauton, the Chapel of Pancras Weke, and others.

In 3. Grandisson's Register, fo. 156. I read, "Prebenda Abbatis & Conventus de Torre in Castro Exon taxatur ad £6 13. 4." This Prebend was called Ashclyst, and was granted to the abbey by Robert Viscount Courtenay, who died 26. July, 1242.

The Abbot's house in Exeter was in St. Paul's-street. The tenement was bounded by the city walls, and

perhaps was the very spot called "Athelstans," now occupied by Mr. Granger's cellars. I find the last Abbot leased out his premises a few months before the suppression of the monastery, to Geffery Holmere, for a term of sixty-three years. But the tenant is required to lodge the said Abbott "at such tyme that he comyth to the said Cytye of Excett' and his servants, as long as it shall plesse hym in the said tenement, at the coste and charge of the said Geffery."

Dr. Tanner, in the *Notitia Monastica*, asserts, that the scite of the abbey was granted by the Crown to Sir John St. Leger, in the 35. Hen. VIII. Sir William Pole, on the other hand, maintains, p. 272. of his *Collections*, (a work, by the bye, more inaccurate than is generally imagined) that it was purchased at the Dissolution by Edward Seymour, Duke of Somerset, and was given by him to his eldest son Edward, whose son, Sir Edward, sold the same unto Sir Thomas Ridgeway, afterwards Earl of Londonderry. The following statement, collected from authentic documents, may be depended upon:—

King Henry VIII. by letters patent, dated 20. Jan. 34th year of his reign, granted to John St. Leger, Esq. the dissolved monastery of Tor. John St. Leger, by deed, dated 14. June, 35. Hen. VIII. granted it to Sir Hugh Pollard. Hugh Pollard, grandson of the said Sir Hugh, by deed, dated 2. April, 22. Eliz. granted it to Sir Edward Seymour, Knight. Edward Seymour, son and heir of the said Sir Edward, by deed, dated 18. Nov. 41. Eliz. sold it to Thomas Ridgway, Esq. ancestor of the Ridgways, afterwards Earls of Londonderry, with whom it remained until the year 1653 or 1654, when it was sold to John Stowell, Esq. from whom it was purchased in 1662, by Sir George Cary.

In this ancient and respectable family,\* the abbey

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\* Amongst the illustrious persons produced in this family, we may be allowed to mention the two Prelates which it has given to the See of Exeter. The first is James Cary, who was promoted by Pope Martin V. 20. Nov. 1419, to the See of Exeter. He died, however, 28. Dec. that year, and was buried at Florence.—The other was Valentine Cary, Dean of St. Paul's, S. T. P. and President of Christ's College, Cambridge, made Bishop of Exeter 18. Nov. 1621, died 10. June, 1626; & is said to have been buried in the S. part of the choir of St. Paul's, London.

still continues; and the writer joins in the fervent wish of the poet :

*Stet fortuna domûs & avi numerentur avorum.*

—♦—

*Ex fo. 150. Registri Edmundi Stafford olim Exoniensis Episcopi.*

Decimo octavo die mensis Marcii A. D. 1413; apud Clyst, Dnus. recepit literas infrascriptas sub tenore qui sequitur verborum.

Reverendo in Xto Patri & Dno Dno Edmundo, permissione Divinâ Exon Epo suus humilis & devotus frater Johes, Del patientiâ Abbas Ecclesie de Wellebek, (in Nottinghamshire,) ordinis Premonstratensis, reverenciam tanto Patri debitam cum honore.

Venerabilem fratrem nostrum, fratrem Willelmum Mychel Ecclesie de Torre, nostri Ordinis & vestre Diocesis Canonicum, in Patrem & Pastorem ejusdem Ecclesie nunc vacantis, per fratres ejusdem Ecclesie, ritè & canonicè secundum Ordinis nri Instituta electum & à nobis (ad quem, tanquam Patrem Abbatem illius Monasterii, auctoritate Sedis Apostolice Ordini nostro in hac parte graciosè concessâ ipsius confirmacio dignoscitur pertinere) prout ejusdem nostri Ordinis moris est, confirmatum, Vestre Paternitati Reverende presentamus per presentes, à vobis plenitudinem sui officii plenariè recepturum, supplicantes Dominationem vestram humiliter & devotè, ut cum idem electus & confirmatus, ut premittitur, ad vos cum presentibus declinaverit, munus benedictionis vestro impertiri dignemini graciosè. In quorum omnium testimonium & fidem presentes literas sigillo nostro signatas vestre Reverende Paternitati duximus presentandas. Conservet vos Altissimus ad regimen Ecclesie sue sancte per tempora diuturna. Datum in dictâ Ecclesiâ de Torre die decimâ mensis Marcii A. D. 1413.

Et subsequenter eodem die Dnus in oapellâ manerii sui de Clyst predicti, eidem Willo Abbati electo & confirmato, more solito, munus benedictionis impendit, prestitâ primitus Dno per eundem Abbatem obedientiâ sub formâ que sequitur in hec verba,

**Ego Willelmus Mychel, Monasterii de Torre, ordinis Premonstratensis Exoniensis Diocesis, Abbas electus & juxta regulam Sci Augustini confirmatus, profiteor Sancte Ecclesie Exoniensi & tibi, Reverende Pater Edmunde, Dei gratiâ, ejusdem Ecclesie Episcopo, tuisque Successoribus in eâ canonicè substituendis, in omnibus canonicam obedientiam & subjectionem.**

## BUCKFASTLEIGH.\*

**T**HE great Cistercian Abbey at Buckfastleigh, or Buckfastre, was founded in the year 1137, by Ethelwold, the son of Wm. Pomerei, in honor of the Virgin Mary. King Henry II. was a friend and benefactor to the infant establishment. A charter of this Monarch, in its favor, may be seen in the Monasticon, attested by the Primate Theobald, and by the Chancellor Thomas à Becket, afterwards the martyred Archbishop of Canterbury.

The following names of the Abbots are all that I can recover:—

- |   | A. D. |
|---|-------|
| 1. <i>William</i> ; occurs as Abbot in the foundation deed of Tor-Abbey, temp. Rich. I. |       |
| 2. <i>Robert</i> , confirmed 7. July,   | 1280  |
| 3. <i>Peter</i> occurs Abbot in   | 1306  |
| 4. <i>Robert</i> occurs in  | 1314  |
| 5. <i>Stephen</i> was instituted 24. June,  | 1328  |
| 6. <i>John de Churstone</i> , succeeded 1. Nov.   | 1332  |
| 7. <i>William Giffard</i> , confirmed 6. June,  | 1333  |
| 8. <i>Philip</i> , admitted 21. May,  | 1349  |
| 9. <i>Robert Simon</i> , occurs in  | 1373  |

I believe Robert Simon conducted and succeeded in a valuable cause of the fishery of the river Dart, at Buckfastleigh, against Dean Sumpter and the Chapter of Exeter Cathedral.

I have perused the exemplification of the record under the great seal, dated 16. Nov. 50. Edward III.

10. *William Slade*, who distinguished himself by his works, entitled Flores Moraliū. Questiones de Animā. Questiones super 4. lib. sententiaru. &c.

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\* Arms, Sable. a Crosier in pale Arg. the crook Or, surmounted by a Stag's head caboshed of the second, horned Gules.

	A. D.
11. <i>William Beaghe</i> , confirmed 8. Sept.	1415
12. <i>Thomas Rogger</i> , admitted 18. April,	1432
13. <i>John Ffychel</i> succeeded 16. Oct.	1440
14. <i>John Matthu</i> , confirmed 3. Oct.	1449
15. <i>John Rede</i> occurs as Abbot in	1503
16. <i>Alfridus Gille</i> , confirmed on Palm Sunday, 4. April,	1512
17. <i>Gabriel Donne, or Dunne</i> , who surrendered his monastery 25. Feb.	1538

Probably this Abbot was particularly obsequious to the views of the Court, as he obtained a greater annuity than even the Abbot of Tavistock.

The following annuities were granted 26. April, 31. Hen. VIII.—

	£.	s.	d.
To Gabriel Dunne, the Abbot, ...	120	0	0
John Dogge.....	6	13	4
John Cowle .....	6	0	0
Matthew Preston .....	5	6	8
Richard Splate. ....	5	6	8
William Shapter .....	5	6	8
John Watts .....	5	6	8
William Avery.....	5	6	8
Richard Taylor .....	5	6	8
Thomas Gylle .....	5	0	0

The yearly income of the abbey is rated by Dugdale, at £466. 11. 2½.

In the Taxatio, so often referred to, I read as follows:—

	£.	s.	d.
Abbas de Bucfestre percipit per annu de ecclesiâ de Downe .....	2	0	0
In ecciâ de Sele (Monachorum) .....	2	13	4
De ecciâ de Churchstowe .....	0	13	4
Abbas de Buckefestre habet.....			
Maner de Brent que tax ad .....	9	15	4
Maner de Northam tax .....	6	6	8
Buckfastre .....	4	3	4
Hethfelde.....	4	8	0
Apud Batekescurgh .....	2	13	0
Apud Padriekstone.....	2	4	8
Apud Sele .....	2	9	4

Apud Doune .....	3	10	0
Apud Trissure... ..	1	15	8
Apud Robiok & Tynden .....	0	8	0

In various leases that I have met with, I find mention of their manors of Kingsbridge and Harberton.

The abbey had also some property in the town, and near the bridge, of Totnes.

The town-house of the Abbot in Exeter, was in the Close, surrounded on three sides by the archdeaconry houses of Barnstaple, and Totnes, and Cornwall, and by letters patent of 28. Sept. 37th Hen. VIII. was granted to George Rolle, in whose family it continued till the time of Henry (afterwards Lord) Rolle, who, in 1737, sold it to the Rev. Thomas Heskett, and it is now the property of James Rodd, Esq. The scite of Buckfastre Abbey was granted, 31. Hen. VIII. to Sir Thomas Dennis,\* of Holcombe Burnell, in the county of Devon.

Dr. William Petre, afterwards Sir William Petre, procured a considerable share of the manors appertaining to this abbey. And, what is singular, he obtained of Pope Paul IV. 28. Dec. A. D. 1555, a confirmation of this property. This gentleman was "appointed in the 27th year of Henry VIII. one of the commissioners to repair unto all the monasteries of England, and to make inquiry into the govern-

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\* The conduct of this gentleman is certainly open to suspicion—he appears to have played a double game—to have accommodated himself to every wish of the Court, and to have intrigued himself into the favor and confidence of the religious houses in Devonshire. From many of these communities, I observe, he had procured the stewardship for himself, and the reversion of it for his son Robert; from most, he had secured annuities for very valuable advice "pro bono consilio nobis impenso & in posterum impendendo;" and he contrived to obtain a confirmation of these annuities from the court of Augmentation of the crown revenues. In the scramble for religious property, he was one of the keenest and most successful competitors. He succeeded in obtaining the scite of Buckfastleigh Abbey, the scite of St. Nicholas' Priory, Exeter; the Park, at Crediton, belonging to the Bishops of Exeter, with four water mills, and a marsh, containing two hundred acres—a property, for which this covetous man was not ashamed to petition the Crown. His royal master, 6. Feb. 31st year of his reign, further rewarded him with the manors of Lyttleham and Exmouth, which had lately belonged to the monastery of Sherburn, in the county of Dorset—with the messuage situate in Baynard Castle Ward, London, formerly the property of the Cistercian Monastery of Croxdon, in Staffordshire; also, with the Hundred of East Budleigh, which had been grasped by the Crown, in consequence of the iniquitous and unjustifiable attainder of Henry Courtenay, Marquess of Exeter. If the mammon of iniquity could confer happiness, this very rich man must have been supremely happy.



ment and behaviour of the votaries of both sexes, that their enormities might be discovered, or rather that their houses might be dissolved, and their lands confiscated."† That he was a time serving politician, and callous to moral and religious principles, when his interest was concerned, it would be folly to deny. But still he is much to be commended for his grateful attachment to Exeter College, in Oxford, where he had received his education; as also for his resolution to resign all rectories, or appropriated tithes and glebes, to their first spiritual uses; and for his readiness to make immediate restitution for that purpose.

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† See Bishop White Kennet's *Parochial Antiquities*, p. 671. a work most admirable for its perspicuity, candour, and elaborate research.

## BUCKLAND ABBEY.\*

**T**HIS abbey, seated on the Eastern banks of the Tavy, was founded in honor of our Lady and St. Benedict, in the year 1278, by Amicia, Countess of Devon. For this new foundation she obtained a colony of Cistercian monks, from Quarrer, in the Isle of Wight. These Religious, without the previous licence and approbation of Walter Bronescombe, the Bishop of Exeter, presumed to celebrate mass, and to exercise their functions. The Bishop resented this trespass on his diocesan jurisdiction, and subjected the community to excommunication and suspension. But he soon relieved them from this penalty, at the solicitation of the Queen Eleanor.—Vid. fo. 96-97. Reg. Bronescombe.

I. Walterus, Dei grâ, Exon Epus dilecto filio Officiario suo, salutem, gratiam & benedictionem. Cum ad instanciam & petitionem Serenissime Dne, Dne Aleanore Regine Anglie, dudum vobis scripserimus, ut suspensionis seu interdicti sententias in Monachos de Boclond Cystercien. Ordinis, seu loca sua, pro eo quod iidem Monachi in Diocesi Nostrâ absque auctoritate nostrâ seu licentiâ, Divina celebrare presumpserunt, latas seu promulgatas relaxaretis, permittentes eosdem Divina celebrare, usque ad festum Pentecostis, ut quousque cum dictâ Dnâ nrâ Reginâ colloquium haberemus personale; ejusdem Dne nostre precibus iterum inclinati, vobis mandamus, quatenus eosdem Monachos usque ad quindenam Sci Michaelis proximè venturi Divina ibidem libere

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\* Arms, Quarterly Argent & Gules, a Crosier, in bend, Or.

celebrare permittatis, ullam nemini eorum inferentes molestiam vel gravamen. Datum London, 6. Kal. Junii, A. D. 1280.

II. Universis &c. Walterus, &c. miseratione Divinâ Exon Epus. Ad universitatis vestre notitiam volumus pervenire, quod nos Interdictum factum in Abbaciâ de Boclond, nostre Diocesis de novo fundatâ, tenore presencium relaxamus; & concedimus quod Abbas & Monachi Cystericiensis Ordinis ibidem commorantes Divina ibidem licitè celebrare & que Ordinis Cisterciensis, sunt, secundum regulam Sci Benedicti liberè exercere valeant, jure, honore & dignitate Episcopali & Ecclesie Exon, in omnibus semper salvis. In cujus rei testimonium sigillum nostrum presentibus fecimus apponi. Datum apud Teynton\* Episcopi, in festo Beate Marie Magdalene A. D. 1280, & Consecrationis nostre 23<sup>o</sup>.

I regret that I cannot present the reader with the regular succession of the Abbots of Buckland.—The following names and institutions are extracted from the Registers:—

	A. D.
1. <i>Galfridus</i> occurs Abbot A. D.	1304
2. <i>Thomas</i> occurs in	1311
3. <i>Thomas Wappelegh</i> occurs in	1373
4. <i>John Bryton</i> , admitted 1. Aug.	1385
5. <i>John Spore</i> , confirmed 28. Sept.	1449
6. <i>John Hylle</i> , admitted 16. Oct.	1453
7. <i>Thomas Olyver</i> succeeded 20. March,	146½
8. <i>John Brundon</i> followed.	
9. <i>Thomas Whyte</i> , was the next Abbot, and was alive in	1527
<i>John Toker</i> , or <i>Tucker</i> , was the last Abbot.	

The yearly revenues of Buckland Abbey were valued at £241. 17. 9½.; though some have rated them as high as £341 per annum.

	£	s.	d
Abbas de Bocclond habet Manerium de Boclond.....	16	2	8

\* It is very certain, that the Bishops of Exeter had a palace at Bishop's Teignton, long before the time of Grandisson. In the early part of his Episcopacy, he states to Pope John XXII. the existence of pulchra edificia at Bishop's Teignton; but does not insinuate that he had erected them.

	£.	s.	d.
Bykeley .....	6	11	8
Wolcampton, & in Dertemer .....	6	10	8
Colompton que tax ad .....	9	15	4
Apud Wykecombe tax .....	0	13	4
Summa	£39	13	8
Decima	£2	13	4½

This Abbey had also very considerable property in Bampton.

The following pensions were granted to the Religious, 28. April, 31. Hen. VIII. :—

	£.	s.	d.
To John Toker, Abbot .....	60	0	0
Thomas Maynard.....	5	6	8
William Gye .....	5	0	0
Thomas Hooper .....	5	0	0
Robert Toope .....	5	6	8
John West.....	5	0	0
William Alford.....	5	0	0
Hugo Harvey .....	4	13	4
Benedict Lovedge .....	4	13	4
Simon Rugewaye.....	4	0	0
William Myllford....	4	0	0
William Ebbesworth .....	3	6	8
John Jordan.....	3	6	8

Sir William Pole, in p. 337. of his Collections, mistakes the order of the occupants of this dissolved monastery. The scite then was first granted 33. Hen. VIII. to Richard Greynfeld, and “four years after” it was conveyed to “Richard” Crymes, of London. In the time of Queen Elizabeth, it was purchased by Sir Francis Drake, in a descendant of whose family it still continues.

I have seen an indenture made between the Abbot, Thomas White, and Robert Derkeham, organist. It is dated 28. May, 1522. The Abbot engages to pay Robert an annuity of £2. 13. 4; to provide him a decent table; to allow a furnished room over the West gate of the monastery, and a

gown, every year, of the value of 12s. He further engages to Robert the reversion of a tenement at Milton, then occupied by John Brooke; and, in the mean while, to provide a decent dwelling-house garden, the moiety of the rent to be paid by Robert Derkeham, who is however to have the feeding of two cows, until he obtains possession of John Brooke's tenement. Robert is also to be allowed five ounces of bread and a quart of beer every night throughout the year; a wax candle from 1. Nov. until 2. Feb.; and thirty horse-loads of faggots for his fire. In consideration of all this, the said Robert is to assist in the choir every day during divine service, and to teach four boys of the convent, any one of whom he may choose, to wait upon him as his servant. He further engages to instruct the boys, and those monks who may wish to learn, in the art of music and playing the organ.

N. B. This indenture was admitted and allowed by the Augmentation Court, 18. Dec. 1540.

The editor of "the Beauties of England," vol. 4. p. 14. Art. Devon, remarks, that the Abbey of Bucland is said to have planted the earliest orchards in the county.

## DUNKESWELL ABBEY.\*

**T**HIS Cistercian abbey, near Honiton, was founded in the year 1201, by William Lord Brewer, who has been already mentioned as the father and founder of the houses of Tor and Polslo. The conventual church of Dunkeswell he chose for the place of his interment.

Of the history of this abbey very little can be gleaned from the registers of the See of Exeter. The following names of the Abbots are all that I can recover :—

	A. D.
1. <i>Thomas</i> , whom I meet in an Indenture dated 29. Sept.	1253
2. <i>John</i> , who became Abbot 17. Oct.	1311
3. <i>William</i> , confirmed on Palm Sunday,	1318
4. <i>William de Stanlake</i> , admitted 8. Sept.	1321
5. <i>John</i> succeeded	
6. <i>Simon</i> followed 22. Feb.	1341
7. <i>William Wedmore</i> , confirmed 7. April,	1353
8. <i>Alexander Burlescombe</i> , admitted Aug.	1397
9. <i>Richard Lamport</i> succeeded 17. July,	1399
10. <i>John Bokelond</i> , admitted 10. June,	1410
11. <i>John Otery</i> , confirmed 26. April,	1439
12. <i>Simon</i> succeeded 13. Feb.	1441
13. <i>Thomas Dullion</i> , occurs Abbot in several leases from 1478 to	1478 1486
14. <i>Richard Pylmyster</i> , occurs in a lease dated 1. Sept.	1498
15. <i>John Whilmore</i> , is a party to a covenant dated 6. July;	1509
16. <i>John Ley</i> , the last Abbot, was confirmed 23. June,	1529

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\* Arms. Two Bends wavy; as appears from a seal in the Augmentation Office. N. B. These are the arms of the founder.

At the dissolution of the abbey the following Religious obtained the grant of pensions 18. May, 1540:—

	£	s.	d.
To John Ley, the Abbot .....	50	0	0
John Webbe .....	6	0	0
William Boreman .....	6	0	0
John Seger .....	5	6	8
John Gennynys. ....	4	13	4
Thomas Typson .....	4	13	4
John Benette.....	4	13	4

The yearly revenues were, as Dugdale says, £294. 18. 6  
According to Speed.....£298. 11. 10

In numerous indentures and leases still extant, I observe frequent mention is made of their manors of Hackepen, Broadhembry, Shildon, Shabbecombe, Bolham, Bowerhays, Wolveston, Auliscombe, Werynstone, Ugston, Wollfarwchurche and Old Dunkeswell. The abbey had property also in the parishes of Coleton Rawleigh, Payhembry, Uffculm, Kentisbere Dodington and Honiton.

In Exeter, a house and garden, situate in St. Paul's parish, belonged to the abbey, and which, I think, was the Abbot's town-house.

From the Taxatio,—

ABBAS DE DONKESWELL HABET

	£.	s.	d.
Manerium de Wolfrechurche tax ad .....	5	16	0
Apud Wywode que tax ad.....	3	6	0
Apud Bourheye & Stentwode .....	4	10	0
Apud Aylescombe .....	2	8	0
Donkeswell de redd que tax ad .....	2	4	0
Shilden .....	4	4	0
Apud la Hydon .....	1	10	0
Lovepute .....	1	16	8
Apud Upotry .....	0	4	0
Manerium de Hembiri .....	10	0	0
Apud Hugheton .....	0	16	0
Apud Wyngeston .....	1	10	0
Apud Sengetil .....	0	2	0
Apud Hankelonde .....	3	14	0
Apud Dodeton ...	1	19	0
Manerium de Hakepenne .....	7	3	4

	£.	s.	d.
Manerium de Buclonde & Bruer.....	7	8	0
Manerium de Lynecombe.....	7	12	0
	<hr/>		
Summa	£64	12	0
	<hr/>		
Decima	£6	9	2
	<hr/>		

N. B. This calculation is not correct.

I observe that Bishop Bronescombe dedicated the parish church of Dunkeswell, in Vigiliâ Sci Nichi 1260. The benefice had been appropriated to the abbey eighteen years before, by Bishop Brewer, as appears from Regist. Bronescombe, fo. 19.

“Omnibus sce Matris Ecclesie filiis ad quos presentes litere pervenerint Willelmus miseracione divinâ Exon Epus, salutem in Dno eternam. Noverit universitas vestra, quod consideratâ cotidianâ hospitalitate, quam in domo Beate Marie de Donekewell (ultra quam facultates ipsius domûs suppetunt) videntur devotè exercere, de consensu & voluntate dilectorum filiorum Decani & Capituli Exon, ecclesiam de Donekewell Parochialem cum oibis pertinenciis suis que ad patronatum Abbatis & Conventûs dicte domûs pertinere dignoscitur, Divine caritatis intuitu in *Augmentum Hospitalitatis* ejusdem, misericorditer duximus concedendam & in proprios usus impetuum confirmandam. Et quia Abbacia de Donekewell infra limites Parochie dicte Ecclesie sita est, volumus ut eandem per honestum capellanum impetuum faciat deserviri. Volumus et, ut dictis Abbati & Conventui occasione dicte ecclesie, cum tenore privilegiorum, suorum nihil servitutis accrescat. In hujus rei testimonium presenti scripto sigillum nostrum apponi fecimus. Datum apud Cerde II. Kal. Octob. an gratie MCCXLII.”

In the letters patent of Henry VIII. dated 4. July, 1540, in which that Monarch bestowed on Lord John Russell so great a proportion of abbey and church lands, situate in the county of Devon, the grant of Dunkeswell forms a distinguishing feature. It is therefore unaccountable that Sir William Pole should positively pronounce, p. 203 of his Collections, “that the abbey of Dunkeswell continued in the Crown, until King James I. added it unto the revenue of



the Duchy of Cornwall." This egregious mistake will be sufficiently exposed by quoting the words of the letters patent.

"*Insuper ex uberiorè grâ nrâ speciali & ex certâ acientiâ & mero motu nostris damus & pro consideratione predictâ per presentes pro Nobis, Heredibus & Succesoribus nostris concedimus prefato Johanni Russell, Militi, Baroni Russell, totam domum & scitum nuper Monasterii sive Abbathie B. Marie Virginis de Dunkyswell in dicto Comitatu nostro Devon modo dissolut, ac totam ecclesiam, companile ac cimiterium ejusdem nuper Monasterii ac omnia messuagia, domos, edificia, grangias, orrea, stabula, columbaria, stagna, vivaria, ortos, pomaria, gardina, terram & solum nostra, tam infra quam extra scitum, septum, ambitum, circuitum & precinctum ejusdem nuper Monasterii de Dunkyswell existentia, ac molendinum nostrum aquaticum, duo gardina & quatuor curtillagia cum pertinenciis in Olde Donkyswell in dicto comitatu nostro Devon, que dicto nuper Monasterio de Dunkyswell spectabant sive pertinebant.*"

Then follows an enumeration of various parcels of land, comprehending about sixteen hundred acres, besides other property belonging to the abbey, which the King bestows on Baron Russell, together with the advowson, patronage and appropriation of the parish churches of Old Dunkeswell, Auliscombe, and of a free chapel there.

## HARTLAND ABBEY.\*

**ST.** Nectan, sometimes called St. Nyghton, the patron Saint of Hartland Abbey, was of royal Welsh extraction. Leland calls him a Martyr, and says, *A. Collectanea* p. 153, that he was buried at Hartland. When the Saint lived, and how and by whom martyred, I have not been able to discover.

A community of Secular Canons was attached to the church of St. Nectan at a very early period. But Sir Jeffery Dynham, whose property was very extensive in the north of Devon, procured the licence of King Henry II. to change these secular, for regular, Canons of the order of St. Augustine, and to found a monastery for them. It is probable that the original monastery was very incomplete, and of a rude style of architecture; for Bishop Stapeldon, who visited it in the year 1319, describes the dormitory as being in a ruinous condition, and the lavatory as ill contrived. He complains that there was no locutorium for the Religious—that the church was dark—and the belfry insufficiently covered in; and he recommends to the Abbot to see that these defects be amended in the new church that was shortly to be erected, “in ecclesiâ noviter construendâ.” *Vid. Regist. fo. 147.*

Until the dissolution of the abbey, the patronage was vested in the Dynham family. Sometimes, however, the names of Fitzwarren, of Zouche, of Carewe and of Arundell, occur as patrons. The reason is

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\* Two Several coats of Arms. 1. Arg. a Crosier in pale Or, surmounted by a Stag's head caboshed sable, horned Gules. 2. Gules, a Bend between three Pears slipped, Or.

this: the heads of those four families married the four daughters of the founder.

The following is the best catalogue of the Abbots that I can offer to the reader :—

- A. D.
1. *Hugo*, who was Abbot, I believe, in the reign of King John
  2. *John Westcott*, I think, succeeded. Vid. Prince's Worthies, p. 754.
  3. *Ogerus de Kernil*, admitted 10. June, 1261
  4. *Thomas Wybbehin* succeeded 4. Oct. 1281
  5. *John* occurs Abbot in 1312; but resigned, on account of bodily infirmities, 18. Sept. 1329, and died soon after.
  6. *John de Ralegh*, I believe, succeeded: he died very early in the year 1350
  7. *David de Wystcote*, confirmed 6. March, that year.
  8. *William Beaumont*, instituted 2. Feb. 1355  
He was alive in 1373.
  9. *Philip Tone* occurs Abbot in 1399  
He died on Sunday 7. Dec. 1427
  10. *Gencianus Maltynge*, elected 20. of the same month and year.  
He died 5. June, 1442
  11. *Richard Tawton* succeeded eight days after.  
He died 1. June, 1462
  12. Another *Richard Tawton* succeeded 28. June, 1462
  13. *John Prust*, who died in the summer of 1529
  14. Another *John Prust* succeeded 21. Aug. that year.
- N. B. This Abbot, with five of his Religious, subscribed to the King's supremacy, 31. Aug. 1534
15. *Thomas Pope*, the last Abbot; he surrendered his monastery 21. Feb. 1539
- I find the following pensions were granted 30. April, 31. Hen. VIII.

	£.	s.	d.
To Thomas Pope, Abbot.....	66	13	4
John Horwell .....	6	13	4
Roger Stone .....	6	13	4

	£.	s.	d.
Henry Kyne .....	6	13	4
Nectanus Bere .....	5	6	8

The income of the abbey was rated at £306. 3. 2½

The scite was granted 37. Hen. VIII. to William Abbot.

In the taxatio of Edward I. I meet with the following particulars :—

	£.	s.	d.
Abbas de Hertiland percipit de ecciâ de			
Molend .....	3	6	8
De ecclesiâ de Knoudeston .....	3	7	8
De ecciâ de Fforberi .....	0	7	0
Habet apud Bideford & Alwynton .....	6	19	4
Apud Barnastapol de redd ..	0	2	0
Apud Thirington, Breonford & Wykelegh de			
redd .....	1	16	1
Apud Brafford que tax .....	0	5	0
Southmolton de redd .....	0	4	0
Apud Kynelaunde de redd .....	0	4	0
Manerium de Launcell .....	11	10	0
Apud Bodmyne de redd .....	1	0	0
In villâ Exon de redd. ....	1	0	0

In Regist. Bronescombe fo. 19. it is stated that the parish church of Stoke, or St. Nectan's, had long been deprived of a Vicar, "per negligentiam Abbatis & Conventus de Hertiland". He orders the Abbot to pay the Vicar in future 100s. per annum; also to provide him with meat and drink like one of the Canons; to maintain his man-servant; and keep him one horse. This ordinance is dated 29. May. 1261.

The abbey presented also to the chapel of Welcombe (which was made independent of St. Nectan's & Parochial 1508)—also to the churches of Fremington, Brushford, Abbotsham, Abbots'-Bickington, Molland, Forbery, Knostone, Woolfardisworthy and others.

It also possessed the manors of Lancelles, Curch, Knoll & Estcote, in Cornwall.

The Abbot's town-house, in Exeter, appears to have been in the High-street.

"Sciant presentes & futuri quod ego Matildis quondam uxor Willi de Lancell in legitimâ viduitate meâ dedi & concessi, & quietum clamavi imppetuum Dno

Hugoni Abbati de Hertylond & Conventui ejusdem loci, totum boscum quem habui vel habere debui in Manerio de Lancell nomine dotis cum omnibus pertinenciis suis. Et totum jus quod habui vel aliquo modo habere potui in totali dicto boscho vel in aliquâ ejus parte, ita qd nichil juris vel exactionis mihi inde retinui imppetuum. Et pro hac donatione & concessione meâ habendâ dederunt mihi dictus Abbas & Conventus X solidos argenti pro manibus. Que ut rate & stabiles permaneant in posterum, eas presenti cartâ meâ & sigilli mei impressione confirmavi. Hiis testibus," &c. &c.

The last owner of the abbey and its possessions, was Paul Orchard, Esq. who died in 1812, and whose memory will long be cherished in this county.

## ST. MARY,

## OF OTTERY.

**F**ROM Domesday it is clear that the Chapter of St. Mary's church, at Rœuen, in Normandy, held Otrei manor of William the Conqueror. Bishop Grandisson informs us, that it was the gift of Edward the Confessor to that reverend body. Whether there was a parish church on the manor, prior to the year 1260, I am not prepared to say; but early in the December of that year, Bishop Bronescombe performed the dedication of the church at Otery. The taxation of this church, in 1384, was £20 per an.

Bishop Grandisson, whose noble birth\* and exalted station in the church, were only exceeded by his generosity and magnanimity, had long entertained the design of forming an establishment that might serve as a sanctuary for piety and learning. The situation that he judged most proper for the purpose was Otery; the spot was pleasant, fertile and salubrious; it was in the vicinity of Exeter; he could therefore, without prejudice to his episcopal duties, be frequently present to watch its rising growth; and his successors in the See would easily

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\* It is worthy of remark that the noble family of Clifford is connected with this illustrious Bishop by his mother's side (Ewias). In the Clifford pedigree, approved and admitted 12. May, 1673, by Edward Walker, Edward Byasse and William Dugdale, Kings of Arms, I find that Roger de Clifford, in the time of Henry III. married Sibilla, daughter and heiress of Robert de Ewias. The father of this Sir Robert Ewias, founded the Cistercian abbey of Dore, in Herefordshire— of which more hereafter. It further appears from the pedigree, that the Cliffords were also allied to Henry Marshal, Bishop of Exeter, in the reigns of Richard I. and King John.

be able to crush faction and vice in the very bud, and to encourage the spirit of fervor and religious discipline. Accordingly, with the approbation of his Sovereign Edward III. and of his friend and patron, Pope John XXII. he opened a negotiation with the Dean and Chapter of Rouen, for the purchase of the said church and manor. In vol. 1. of his register, the letters between the parties are preserved. It seems that the Chapter calculated on driving a hard bargain; and their demands rose so high as to be designated by the Bishop as unreasonable and exorbitant, "*summa gravis & intolerabilis & salvâ gratiâ vestrâ irrationabilis.*" At length, however, they condescended to lower their price, and the Bishop, from his own purse, *ex suo peculio*, purchased the manor and the advowson of the church, both of which were then valued at two hundred and forty marks per annum.

In fo. 43. of the same register is given the foundation deed of St. Mary's College. It sets forth that he had erected the parish church into a collegiate one—that the four principal officers of the establishment should be as follows:—1. the Warden.—2. the Minister—3. the Precentor—and 4. the Sacristan. These dignitaries ranked as Canons & Prebendaries. Four simple Canons were also to be attached to the service of this collegiate church, and their Prebends were denominated Quinta, Sexta, Septima & Octava. The collation to these Prebends was to belong exclusively to the Bishop of Exeter, for the time being. There were also to be eight Choral Vicars in Priests' orders; also one Priest to have charge of the parishioners; one Priest to celebrate the early morning service, *Presbyter matutinalis*; one Priest to be attached to our Lady's chapel; also eight Clerks, called Secondaries; two other Clerks, called *Clerici Ecclesie*; two other Clerks, called *Aquebauli*\*; eight choir boys, and a master of grammar. All these forty members of the college were obliged to assist at the daily and nightly office, in their proper habits.

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\* *Aquebauli* were persons who carried the vessel of the holy water in processions and benedictions.—Scholars in the minor orders were always to be preferred for this office.—Vid. cap. 29. Synod Exoniensis, A. D. 1287.

The Canons were to possess the right of nominating the Vicars, Secondaries, and others; but if they should neglect to fill up a vacancy within the space of twenty days, the appointment devolved on the Diocesan. No one person was permitted to hold a double office.

The Warden, by virtue of his office, was to receive annually 60s.

The Minister was to receive the same sum.

The Precentor was to receive 30s.

The Sacristan, the same as the Precentor.

In quality of Canons, these dignitaries were entitled to the same stipend which the simple Canons enjoyed, viz. 40s. per annum.; on feasts that were doubles, all the Canons were to have 6d. per day: on days "*quibus \* regitur chorus*" 5d.; on other days 4d. Should any be absent from matins, without a reasonable cause, the forfeit was to be three farthings; but one penny, if absent from high mass or vespers.

Each Vicar was to receive a weekly allowance of 12d. besides a yearly stipend of 20s. Should any Vicar absent himself from matins, high mass, or vespers, he was to forfeit one penny; if absent from prime, tierce, sext, or none, he was to lose one farthing of his pay.

The parish Priest was to receive six marks per annum. The clergyman who served our Lady's chapel, and the eight Secondaries, were to receive 8d. weekly, and 12s. per annum: for each absence they were to lose one farthing. The choir boys were to receive 5d. weekly, and 6s. 8d. per annum, and were liable to the same forfeits as the Secondaries. The two Clerici Ecclesie, and the school-master, were to receive two marks per annum. The two clerks Aquebauli, besides the ordinary fees from the parishioners, were to receive 6s. 8d. from the college yearly.

The members of the college were to elect, from

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\* From the circumstance, that the Bishop of Sarum was Precentor in the college of Bishops, and that he directed the choir, when the Bishops assisted at a service solemnly performed by the Archbishop of Canterbury, (Lyndwood Provinciale p. 104.) it would seem that the expression *diebus quibus regitur chorus*, imported "solemn festivals." But in the case before us, how comes it that the remuneration is less than on doubles? Q. If the days are not semidoubles?



the body of Vicars, an officer called the Succentor or Subchanter. Besides his duty in the choir, he was also to note down and report the absentees; and he was entitled to a moiety of all the fines collected from such absentees as were not Canons: the other moiety was to be delivered to the stewards, who were to be two in number, and to be chosen from the Canons every year, on the Vigil of St. Michael. It further appears, from the deed of foundation, that each Canon had his own house; and that the Bishop had erected a suitable mansion for the Vicars and inferior ministers, where they lived in common.

Bishop Grandisson expressly enjoins that the anniversaries of Cardinal Peter, Bishop of Præneste, who had consecrated him in the Dominican church, at Avignon, 18. Oct. 1327; of Pope John XXII.\* his friend and promoter; of William Grandisson, his father; of Sibilla, his mother; of his uncle, Otho Grandisson;† and of his brothers and sisters, should be observed with solemnity; and that considerable charities should be distributed to the poor on these occasions.

For the endowments of this extensive foundation, the Bishop grants for ever to the college the manor of Otery, with all its rights and appurtenances, with the reservation of 6s. 8d. to be paid annually to the Dean and Chapter of Rouen. This deed is dated 22. January, 1337-8. The approbation of the sovereign Pontiff, Clement VI. is dated from Avignon 27. June, 1st year of his pontificate, (1342).

A few months after the foundation, Bishop Grandisson, with the free consent of the Prior and Convent of Plympton, procured the annexation of the church of Ilington to his college. The appropriation is dated 5. May, 1338.—*Vid. I. Regist. fo. 156.*

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\* In *I. Regist. Grandisson, fo. 106.* it is stated, that the anniversary of this Pope was on the 4. Dec.; the anniversary of William Grandisson on 26. June; and of Sibilla, on 21. Oct.—*N. B. Haker* incorrectly calls Grandisson's father, Gilbert.

† This Otho, the Bishop's brother, was very rich, and had obtained of King Edward III. a grant of the county of Tipperary, in Ireland. See p. 64, of *Parrell's Apology*. In a patent 33. Edward III. we find, "*Rex tenetur Otoni de Grandissono in decem millibus Multonum auri,*" that is with coins, stamped with an *Agnus Dei*. See *Spelman's Glossary*.

The priory, however, in resigning this benefice, reserved an annual pension of 100s.

For the better support of this establishment, Otho Grandisson, the Bishop's brother, purchased of St. Stephen's Abbey, at Caen, in Normandy, the living of Northam, and appropriated it to the college 3. Dec. 1363. In consequence of this accession of property, the number of Vicars was increased from eight to ten. It further appears, from 1. Regist. fo. 213. that this Otho had bequeathed to the college certain houses and rents in the city of London.

From an interesting document, dated 22. Feb. 1422. vol. 2. Regist. Stafford fo. 278. we discover that the college was charged with providing every thing necessary for Bishop Grandisson's chantry, (sometimes called St. Radegundes' chapel,) on the right hand of the great Western entrance into the Cathedral of Exeter. To support this chantry and the officiating clergyman, certain lands and messuages, situate in the Old Jewry, in London, had been bequeathed by Mr. Nicholas Braybrook, and others.\*

In 3. Regist. Lacey fo. 145. with the further appropriation of the church of Iplepen, A. D. 1439.

The founder had originally determined, that if any monies remained in the college treasury at Michaelmas, a moiety should be taken out to be distributed amongst the residentiary Canons. But on 1. July, 1354, he decreed that the expences of hospitality, which the Warden, from the nature of his office, was obliged to incur during the course of the year, should previously be refunded before any distribution should take place.

Two singular ordinances of the founder are stated in 1. Regist. fo. 105. The first, that after the solemn service and procession on the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin, (15. Aug.) a handsome entertainment was to be provided at the expence of the col-

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\* The college was bound to keep the Obit of this Mr. Nicholas Braybrook, and Theobald Mountenay, Esq. on the second day after the Feast of the Epiphany of our Lord. N.B. In the chantry, within the palace of the Bishops of London, perpetual prayers were offered for the souls of the Bishops of London, for the Braybrook family, and "for John Grandisson, once Bishop of Exeter."—Vid. Dugdale's Hist. of St. Paul's. p. 135.

lege, at which the whole community was to assist, habited in surplices "in signum candide virginittis Beate Marie."

The second, that, as a mark of gratitude to the foundation, and in order to perpetuate their own memory, each of the four dignitaries was bound to present to the College a silk cope of the value of 40s.; each of the four simple Canons was to make a donation of a chasuble, or tunic, or dalmatic, or of a decent alb, with an amice, stole and maniple, or of some\* book that might be useful to the church, of 20s. value; or once pay to the college treasury the sum of 20s. It is to be observed that this regulation was not binding, if the members had not enjoyed their prebends a complete year; and again, that it was optional, whether they made the donation during their lives, or bequeathed it at their death.

The oath taken by a member of the college, was as follows:—"Ego, N. ab hac hora in antea fidelis ero Ecclesie Collegiate Sancte Marie de Otry ac Collegio & Confratribus meis Canonicis ejusdem. Et ordinationem ac statuta dicte Ecclesie à Venerabili Patre Dno Johanne de Grandissono Exon Epo fundatore dicti Collegii edita quantum ad me attinet, fideliter observabo; ac jura & libertates ipsius Collegii pro posse meo defendam ac tuebor.\* Sic me Deus adjuvet & hec sancta," &c.

Before I present the reader with the succession of the Wardens of Otry College, I will merely notice the gross error of Godwin in his life of Bishop Grandisson, that it was a foundation for Black Monks, "*Collegium condidit monachis atratis Otereie.*" Such an assertion is too absurd to require a serious refutation.

#### WARDENS.

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|--|----------------|
|  | A. D.          |
| 1. <i>Richard de Gonisale</i> , appointed warden provisionally, 17. Jan. | 1337-8         |
| 2. <i>Richard de Otry</i> succeeded                                      | 24. June, 1338 |

\* The Library of this church must have been considerable. John de Exeter, clerk, bequeathed to it, 28. July, 1445, books to the number of 136.—Vid. 3. Regist. Lacy, fo. 513.

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|---|-------|
|   | A. D. |
| 3. <i>Henry Bonet</i> , who resigned 9. May,                    | 1350  |
| 4. <i>Andrew Attemore</i> succeeded 17th of the following June, |       |
| 5. <i>John Colerel</i> occurs Warden in                         | 1387  |
| 6. <i>William Slade</i> succeeded                               |       |
| 7. <i>John Bokelond</i> , admitted 17. Oct.                     | 1399  |
| 8. <i>John Tyret</i> , died late in                             | 1414  |
| 9. <i>John Sarger</i> succeeded on the ensuing 28th of January. |       |

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|--|------|
| 10. <i>John Hancock</i> , admitted 31. August, | 1446 |
|--|------|

I believe it was during this Warden's government, that King Henry VI. in the summer of 1451, visited the college. Izacke informs us, that he was received with great solemnity, and that he lodged in the college two nights.

11. *Thomas Stephens*.

- |   |      |
|---|------|
| 12. <i>Thomas Cornish</i> , Episcopus Tynensis & suffragan to Bishop Fox, collated to the wardenship in December, | 1490 |
|---|------|

- |  |      |
|--|------|
| N. B. He resigned this office in June, | 1511 |
|--|------|

13. *Thomas Michell* succeeded on the 27th of the same month and year.

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|--|------|
| 14. <i>Thomas Chard</i> , Episcopus Solubricensis, succeeded 9. Oct. | 1513 |
|--|------|

- |                               |      |
|-------------------------------|------|
| And resigned in the autumn of | 1518 |
|-------------------------------|------|

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|---|------|
| 15. <i>Walter Dudman</i> , confirmed 16. Oct. | 1518 |
|---|------|

- |  |      |
|--|------|
| 16. <i>Oliver Smith</i> followed 26. June, | 1525 |
|--|------|

N. B. This Warden, with Roger Bramston, Minister; Roger Stokeman, Sacristan; and William Dyeher, Canon; subscribed to the King's Supremacy, 13. July, 1534.—Vid. 14. Rymer's Fœdera, p. 508.

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|--|------|
| 17. <i>John Ffyshe</i> , appointed by Bishop Veysey, Smith's successor, 30. Oct. | 1554 |
|--|------|

At the dissolution of the college, its annual income was rated at £303. 2. 9.

I meet with but two pensions, which were granted at Westminster, 12. July, 37. Hen. VIII

£. s. d.

To Nicholas Philips, Vicar..... 6 18 5

Baldwin Bastcombe..... 6 18 5

The college was granted, 37. Hen. VIII. to Edward,

Earl of Hertford. The King, in the same year, founded the grammar-school for the parish.

The following answer of Bishop Veysey to the writ of the Barons of the Exchequer, desiring information concerning the temporalities of this college, is copied from his Register, vol. 2. fo. 5.

“Johannes permissione divinâ Exon Epus, egregiis viris Baronibus de Scaccario Dni mei Regis apud Westmonasterium, salutem in eo, in quo est omnis vera salus. Breve Dni Regis presentibus interclusum cum eâ quâ decuit reverenciâ accepimus sub tenore in eodem contento. Cujus quidem Brevis auctoritate pariter & vigore certificamus, quod scrutatis Rēgistris nostris ac aliis evidenciis diligenter recensitis, comperimus quod Custos & Collegium de Otry habuerunt & in suos proprios usus tenuerunt prout in presenti habent & tenent, ecclesiam Sce Marie de Otry unitam & appropriatam dicto Custodi & Collegio per Reverendum Patrem bone memorie Johannem de Grandissono, olim, dum vixit, Exon Epum Predecessorem nostrum A. D. 1337. Et solvere consueverunt pro decimâ ipsius Collegii ratione Spiritualium & Temporalium £4. 7. 0½.—Item pro decimâ dicte Eccleie Dive Marie de Otry 20s.—Item pro Vicario ejusdem 6s. 8d. Habent eciam in suos proprios usus & optinent ecclesias Parochiales sequentes, viz. Ecclesiam Parochialem de Istyngton quam appropriavit dictis Custodi & Collegio antedictus Reverendus Pater. A. D. 1338, cujus decima 14s. 7½d. Item ecclesiam Parochialem de Ipplepen dicto Custodi & Collegio appropriatam per recolendum virum felicis memorie Edmundum Lacy, olim Exon Epum Predecessorem nostrum A. D. 1439, cujus decima 6s.—Item Ecclesiam Parochialem de Northam dicto Custodi & Collegio per sepedictum Patrem Johem de Grandissono appropriatam A. D. 1361, cujus decima 14s. 9½d. Comperimus eciam per alia fide digna documenta quod solvere consueverunt Regi Celsitudini ac Progenitoribus suis pro temporalibus taxam sub nomine Decani & Capituli Ecclesie Rothomagensis 25s. Quod vobis significamus per has nostras literas patentes &

sic mandata cœrenissime Regie Majestatis cum eâ quâ decuit reverenciâ & diligenciâ executi sumus. In quorum omnium & singulorum fidem & testimonium sigillum nostrum, &c. &c. Datum in manerio nr de Chudlegh 17. Novembris Anno Dni Regis Henrici 12<sup>o</sup>. & Consecrationis nostre 2<sup>o</sup>."

The collegiate church of Ottery has sometimes been compared to the Cathedral of Exeter, and has been called St. Peter's in miniature. The ground plan is indeed nearly the same; but, in my opinion, it is a very humble imitation of its prototype, and will stand no comparison in unity of design, chasteness of architecture, and splendour of decoration. Bishop Grandisson seems to have built the whole of the choir, and of the Lady chapel, and to have retained the greater part of the walls and windows of the old church to form the nave, which he must have entirely new vaulted. We have already remarked that Bishop Bronescombe dedicated the Old parish church in 1260, in the reign of Hen. III.

In a letter which Grandisson addressed to Pope Benedict XII. (vid. 1. Regist. fo. 40.) he says, that this collegiate church was dedicated to our Lady, and St. Edward the Confessor; and he afterwards adds "in quorum reverenciam ibidem jam *Ecclesiola*, inter omnes Regni istius juxta statum suum *venustior est constructa*."

The curious observer will remark throughout the church, in the nodules of the nave, choir and aisles, the arms of Grandisson, viz: palewise of six, argent and azure, a bend gules, charged with a mitre between two eaglets displayed Or; as also very frequently the Montacute armorial bearings, viz: Argent 3 lozenges or fusils in fess, gules. Probably William Montacute, Earl of Salisbury, who married Catharine, Bishop Grandisson's sister, might have assisted in founding the college, or in altering and improving the old fabric. The Earl died 2. Feb. 1344.—See 1. Dugdale's Baronage, p. 647.

A gorgeous chapel, communicating with the north aisle of the nave, cannot fail to arrest the attention of the spectator. Perhaps it is the grandest specimen of the florid and most recent style of English architec-

ture within the diocese of Exeter. From the armorial bearings of Bishops Courtenay and Veysey, it is reasonable to suppose that it was begun late in the 15th, and finished in the early part of the 16th century.

The feeling spectator will heave a sigh, when he beholds the two magnificent monuments in the nave, *supposed* to be erected to the memory of Grandisson's parents. If love of the arts could not protect them from injury and mutilation, still the respect due to such an ornament of his country and of mankind, should have secured them better treatment. I said that these monuments were supposed to be erected to the memory of the Bishop's parents; for it is an unquestionable fact, that both were buried in the conventual church of Dore, in Herefordshire. In 1. Regist. fo. 40. a letter of Grandisson's to Pope Benedict XII. is extant. After congratulating his Holiness on his recent promotion to the papal chair,\* he tells him that his eyes are still streaming with tears for the loss he has lately sustained by the death of his mother: he then proceeds thus: "*Ipsa Mater mea Anglicâ genere, in domo Cisterciensis Ordinis nomine Dora à suis Progenitoribus fundatâ, noviter humi tradita, patrem licet Burgundum genere ibidem sepeliendum, & Tute Archangelice ultimum sonitum prestolatur, prout venerabilis Doctor Abbas ejusdem domûs de Dore dicte satis novit.*"—Perhaps the monuments in question were erected to some of the Montacute family.

There was a chapel of our Saviour near Otery bridge. For the repairs of this chapel and the bridge, Bishop Lacy granted an indulgence of forty days, on the 8th Sept. 1438. Bishop Veysey permitted one John Selman to become a Recluse in this chapel, on 10. November, 1531.—Vid. 2 Regist. Veysey fo. 61.

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\* The letter must clearly be written early in 1335, as Pope John XXII. died on 4. Dec. 1334.

## ST. JOHN'S HOSPITAL,\*

## EXETER.

**B**ETWEEN fo. 17 and 18 of Bishop Bronescombe's Register, a memorandum is inserted, purporting to be a true copy of the first and second foundation of the hospitals of SS. Alexius, and John the Baptist. It states, that in the year 1170, 12. Hen. II. whilst Bartholomew was Bishop of Exeter, William Prodom, the son of Ralph Prodom, had begun the foundation of St. Alexius' Hospital, in a spot of ground immediately behind St. Nicholas' Priory,† "retrò Monasterium Sci Nicholai"—that he had obtained a spot of ground, called Illisberry, for this purpose, of Walter, the Abbot of Battle, and that the same was confirmed to him by the Abbot Odo, who succeeded Walter. This foundation was made for poor needy persons, "pauperibus egenis," and was not a place of and for two Monks, as Izacke absurdly represents it.

From this memorandum it further appears, that the Hospital of St. Alexius subsisted for seventy years,

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\* The original brass seal of the hospital was in the possession of the late Alderman Crossing. I have seen an impression—it was circular, and represented a building something like a church; but having on the south side three round arches perfectly similar to those still standing in the inner court. The inscription ran thus:—"Sigill hospital Sci Johis juxta oriental Porta Exon."

† Jenkins has discovered that "this hospital was situated in Gandy's Lane, anciently called *St. Lucie's Lane*; a common abridgement for *St. Alexis*."—See pages 31 and 329, of what he is pleased to call his "History of Exeter."

I have met with a lease, dated 8. Feb. 1. Hen. VII. where the "*Venella vocata Saint Luce*," is described as being near Ffrenenhaye, and the gardens of the Prior of St. Nicholas. It is now called Friernhay-street.



when it was united to St. John's Hospital, near the East gate, founded and endowed about the year 1240, by two brothers, called Gilbert and John Long. This act of incorporation received the ratification of King Henry III. and the confirmation of Boniface, Archbishop of Canterbury. Soon after this, John Long, one of the founders, probably from a motive of humility and charity, became a member of the hospital, and was appointed the master of the community "of the brothers and sisters."\*

Bishop Bytton, who died in 1307, is recorded to have been a great benefactor to this charitable institution. Amongst other good works he repaired their infirmary.

The first regular mention of the hospital in the Registers of the See of Exeter occurs in 1274, when Bishop Bronescombe, on the 21. Sept. commissioned William de Werpelisdon, Canon of the Cathedral, to the charge and administration of its temporalities. In 1276, John de Castello was appointed to the same office. And indeed it is obvious, from the sequel of the registers, that until the dissolution of the hospital, by Henry VIII. the Bishops commissioned some respectable ecclesiastical to overlook its temporal concerns.

In Bishop Grandisson's Register, vol. 2. p. 3. is an interesting document, dated 29. May, 1329. It informs us that Sir Philip de Columbarist and his wife Alianora had bestowed on the hospital the patronage and advowson of the parish church of Holne, near Ashburton. At this time the hospital was exceedingly poor. This Bishop confirms the appropriation of the benefice, and orders that the number of clergymen, who served the hospital, originally confined to two, should be increased to four; and that one of them should daily celebrate our Lady's mass; and another,

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\* "Alter frater Johes Longus intrans fraternitatem predicti Hospitalis factus est Magister Fratrum & Sororum ejusdem Hospitalis."

I also observe in 2. Regist. Grandisson, fo. 134. that the bishop, on 31. Dec. 1329, desired Matilda de Tiverton, whom he describes to be "senio confracta & corpore incurvata," to be admitted among the infirm sisters of St. John's Hospital.

† According to Leland, this Philip and his wife were buried in Barnstaple Priory. — See his Itinerary, vol. 2. p. 104.

the mass of requiem or of the day, according to his devotion ; for the welfare of the Columbers family, and of King Edward III. as also for the repose of the following deceased benefactors, William Martyn & his wife Alianora, William de Hastyng, and John de Lacy. The hospital was to provide twenty wax tapers, each of one pound weight, to be placed on the catafalque "super herciam" of William Martyn and Alianora his wife, who were interred in the Dominican church of this city ; which lights were to burn during the dirge there to be performed on their respective anniversaries, viz. on William's anniversary, the Feast of St. Catharine the Virgin ; and on Alianora's, the Feast of St. Blase the martyr. On each of these anniversaries the hospital was to pay 6s. 8d. to the said Dominican convent, and was also to perform a solemn service in their own church for the repose of the souls of the above-mentioned benefactors.

In fo. 5. of the same vol. it is stated that Walter Stapeldon, late Bishop of Exeter, had intended to found a grammar school in St. John's Hospital, and to appropriate to it the advowson of Yarnscombe Church, near Barnstaple. His lamented and untimely fate prevented the execution of his pious intentions. Bishop Grandisson, with a zeal and spirit equally honourable to his head and his heart, entered into the benevolent views of his predecessor, and, by his protection and munificence, may justly be styled the founder of the establishment. The deed of foundation is dated 1332, and sets forth, that two poor children shall be chosen from the Archdeaconry of Barum ; one or both of whom, if judged proper, to be taken from Yarnscombe parish—one or two from the Archdeaconry of Totnes—two from the Archdeaconry of Exeter—one or two from the Archdeaconry of Cornwall—three from amongst the chorister boys of Exeter Cathedral, and one at the nomination of the Columbers family. The schoolmaster was, if possible, to be in priestly orders.

In another document, vol. 1. fo. 184. bearing date 31. March, 1354, the same Bishop acquaints us that on his promotion to the See of Exeter, he found this charitable establishment in the most deplorable con-

dition; the only inhabitants were then, one Priest and a few infirm persons; that he had succeeded in increasing the number of the clergymen unto five, one of whom was to hold the office of Superior or Prior—that the number of poor persons on the foundation should be twelve in future—that there should be also eight boys with a master to teach them grammar—and that he had enjoined the clergymen to adopt the order and observance of St. Augustine. He adds, that he had sometime before dedicated a spot of ground contiguous to their church, to serve as a burial place for their community. From a memorandum, fo. 128. of the same vol. we learn that the dedication of this cemetery, as also of the nave of the church from the entrance as far as the choir, “navem Ecclesie, viz. ab ingressu ejusdem navis usque ad introitum chori,” was performed 16. Sept. 1351, the Feast of St. Lambert, Bishop and martyr. See again 1. Regist. Stafford, fo. 241. The high altar of the hospital church had been dedicated by Bishop Grandisson, 12. Nov. 1336.—Vid. 2. Regist. fo. 205.

I believe there is scarcely a will in the episcopal registers, wherein a legacy is not bequeathed to this charitable foundation.

Of the Priors or masters of the hospital, I have recovered the following succession:—

- |   | A. D. |
|---|-------|
| 1. <i>John Bolchill</i> , admitted Prior 10. Feb.             | 1349  |
| He died 26. July,   | 1384  |
| 2. <i>Richard Wodeford</i> succeeded.                         |       |
| He died 6. August,  | 1428  |
| 3. <i>John Dowrysshe</i> followed.                            |       |
| He died 2. May,   | 1451  |
| Thus these Priors governed the house for more than a century. |       |
| 4. <i>John Colyford</i> succeeded five days after.            |       |
| He died in the spring of                                      | 1468. |
| 5. <i>Robert Combe</i> , admitted 4. May, same year.          |       |
| He was living in 1498.  |       |
| 6. <i>John Olyver</i> .                                       |       |
| 7. <i>Richard Hyll</i> . I meet with in leases in             | 1515. |
| and   | 1524  |
| 8. <i>Robert Lawrence</i> . He was living in                  | 1518. |
| 9. <i>Richard Harrys</i> .                                    |       |

This was the last Prior, and he subscribed to the supremacy 13. July, 1534, with three of his brethren.

The annual income of the hospital was rated at £102. 12. 9.

On the 11. May. 1539, the following members of the hospital were gratified with pensions.

£. s. d.

Richard Harrys, late Prior or.

Master ..... 16 13 4

John Broderidge ..... 3 6 8

John Scotts ..... 3 6 8

In several leases now before me, I find the hospital had property in Clyst, in Heavitree, in St. Sidwell's parish, as also certain tenements in the parishes of SS. George, Kerian, Martin, Stephen, and Lawrence, and in the Friernhay, within the city of Exeter.

On 29. March, 35. Hen. VIII. Hugo Ffrye, of Exon, purchased of the Crown the rectory of Yarncombe, for a term of twenty-one years, for the annual sum of £10.

## FRANCISCAN CONVENT,

### EXETER.

**T**HE Franciscan Order was first confirmed by Pope Innocent III. 16. April, 1209. About eleven years after, Brother Agnellus, with eight companions of the same Institute, arrived in England, and were graciously received by King Henry III.

As far as I can trace, the Franciscan Convent in Exeter was established about the year 1250. "It was situated," says Leland, "betwixt the North and West gate, neere the towne waulle, now a plain vacant ground caullid Ferenhay." This convent must have been greatly straitened for room; as most of the land in that quarter of the city belonged to the ancient and royal Monastery of St. Nicholas. Hoker asserts, that Bishop Quivill, at first promised, but afterwards refused, to provide them with a more convenient situation; and he says, that Peter Kenefeld, a Dominican and his Confessor, had succeeded in poisoning his mind against these Religious. Godwin, without the least evidence, is inclined to believe that, in revenge for his opposition, the Friars managed to take the Bishop off by a very strong poison. "*Existimassem veneno rapido, illorum machinatione extinctum.*"!!!

In the appendix will be given an interesting letter of the Primate, Archbishop Peckham, in 1281, to Bishop Quivill. From its tenor, we think it probable that our respectable Prelate did startle in the beginning at the extraordinary privileges of the Franciscan

Order; that he might have considered them as so many encroachments upon the episcopal authority; and perhaps hesitated to acknowledge them, until satisfactory proof was brought that they had really been granted by the Apostolic See. But that he truly esteemed the Order, befriended its members, and allowed their privileges, is manifest from the 6th chapter of the Synodus Exoniensis which he held here in the year 1287. "Quia de rebus transitoriis nihil superest, quod animarum saluti debeat anteponi, Praecipimus quod cum Fratres Praedicatores & Minores, tam in Quadragesimâ quam extra, cum transitum fecerint per Parochias, Confessiones Fidelium liberè audiant & penitentias injungant. Et si Sedes Apostolica eis *amplius* indulserit vel indixerit indulgendum, hoc ab omnibus observetur. Et quoniam ipsorum Fratrum prædicatio & sancta conversatio in ecclesiâ Dei produxisse fructum non modicum dinoscitur, ubicumque per nostram Diocesim transitum fecerint, honorificè admittantur & procurentur honestè."

If the venerable Prelate could not serve them more effectually, why not attribute it to the short period of his government, and to the difficulties he had to encounter in re-building a new cathedral?

In Bishop Bytton, Quivill's successor, the Friars experienced a generous benefactor; "he removed them from the Friernhay;" and, as Leland informs us, "he builded them an house a little without the South gate."

Bishop Bytton's Register, which might have thrown considerable light on this foundation, is entirely lost: the other registers afford but little information respecting this community. In the appendix, is the copy of the donation of a library to their convent, in the year 1266, by Roger de Thoris, Archdeacon of Exeter. If I may judge from the lists of their Ordinandi, the community must have been numerous. It was certainly in high repute for learning and piety. I must here remark, that Jenkins's\* account

\* See p. 48. of his History of Exeter. When this man "was conscious," as he tells us in his preface, "that he was unequal to such an undertaking;" why attempt it?

of this convent is a tissue of errors and absurdities. The convent was exceedingly poor—it had no real estate whatever, and it subsisted chiefly on the alms and benefactions of well-disposed Christians.

Many illustrious persons were buried in their conventual church. Amongst others, Isabella, who was first married to John de Courtenay, and after his death in 1273, became wife to Lord Oliver Dinant. She was interred on the south side of the chancel. Hoker, in his MS. says, the convent was suppressed 12. Sept. 1538.

The scite was granted, says Tanner, to Humphry Rolles. It still retains the name of Friars; but I find no vestige of the convent, besides a part of an ancient building, supported by three buttresses.

In Jones' Index to Records, I observe, under the Art. Exonia, "*Carta De Johanna Hill occasionata ad ostendendum quo titulo tenet situm Fratrum Minorum vocatorum Le Grey Fryers juxta Civitatem prædictam. Paschæ Recordæ, 5. Edward VI. Rotulo 26.*"

In the registers, frequent mention is made of the Franciscan convent at Plymouth.—We may here remark, that the English Franciscan province numbered about ninety convents under the seven custodies of London, York, Bristol, Cambridge, Oxford, Newcastle and Worcester. An indeterminate number of Convents formed a Custody, of which the Superior was called Custos. The immediate Superior of a convent was called Gardianus; the Superior of the whole body in England, was styled Minister Provincialis.—See the learned and interesting work, entitled *Collectanea Anglo-Minoritica*, 4to. Lond. 1726. of which the Rev. Anthony Parkinson was Author.

## DOMINICAN CONVENT,\*

### EXETER.

**L**ELAND informs us, that "there was a house of Blake Freres on the North side of the Cemiterie of the Cathedrale church, but withoute the Close." 3. Itin. p. 60.

The same writer notices the following works which he saw in their conventual library, 3. Collectanea, p. 151.

Kilwardeby super Sententias.

Shirwood super Sententias.

Lectura Holcot super Sententias.

Stephanus Cantuar : super Cantica Canticorum.

Concordia quatuor Evangelistarum, autore Clemente Lantonense. Sic incipit : "Quæris quâ fretus auctoritate."

I regret to have collected but little information concerning this establishment. It certainly existed here before the year 1259 ; for, early that year, Bishop Bronescombe acknowledged, in writing, that the supply of water, conveyed into his palace from the Dominican convent, was to be considered as a personal favor, and not be construed as a matter of right by any of his successors. "Anno 1258, 17. Kal. Aprilis, consignata fuit quedam litera super aque ductu de Domo Fratrum Predicatorum usque ad curiam Dni Epi in suis adventibus & eo apud

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\* I have seen an impression of the conventual seal. Under a pointed arch appears the blessed Virgin, holding the Divine Infant over an altar : an opposite figure seems intended for St. Joseph. Beneath, under an arch, is the half figure of a monk in the attitude of prayer. The inscription is as follows :—S. Convent. Frv. Predicatorum. Exon.



Exon quandocumque commorante, ita quod nullus Successorum suorum processu temporis in eodem aque ductu jus sibi possit vendicare." *Regist. Bronescombe*, fo. 5.

Eight months after, Bishop Bronescombe dedicated their conventual church, Anno 1259: "in crastino Sce Catharine Dominus dedicavit ecclesiam Predicatorum apud Exon "

This church became the burying place of some of the most illustrious families in Devonshire; the Martyns, the Calwodeleighs, and many others—but now alas!

Incumbunt tumulis nigra silentia et  
Altæ oblivio gloriæ.

Casimiri, L. 2. Od. 4.

This establishment was founded by a Bishop of Exeter, perhaps by Richard Blondy. In quality of Bishop of Exeter, Lacy styles himself, 3. *Regist.* fo. 232. "Hujus domus Patronus unicus & fundator." In the appendix will be given a charge which Lacy delivered before the general Chapter of the Dominicans held in this very Convent A. D. 1441, at which twenty-five Doctors of divinity and a considerable number of Masters and Bachelors of Arts assisted, from various parts of the kingdom. It is a curious specimen of the false and barbarous eloquence of the pulpit in the 15th century. The orator, however, considered it as such a finished composition, that he has inserted in fo. 232. vol. 3. of his register, "verbum de verbo inclusivè," for the admiration and instruction of succeeding ages.

In 1. *Regist. Stafford*, fo. 101. mention is made of one David Russell, a professed Religious of the Dominican convent in Dublin, being aggregated to the body of Friars preachers at Exeter, by the English provincial, John de Lancastria, Anno 1412.

Thomas Chard, Episcopus Solubricensis and

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\* The English Dominican province comprehended forty-three houses. The first house was established at Oxford in 1221. In the diocese of Exeter, there were but two Dominican houses; the one in this city, the other at Truro, in Cornwall. "Anno 1260, die Sci Michis dedicavit Dnus Epus ecclesiam Fratrum Predicatorum de Trueru."—*Vid. Regist. Bronescombe.*

Bishop Oldham's coadjutor, gave ordinations in their Dominican church on 27. Sept. 1509. .

As far as I can collect, these Religious were held in high consideration throughout the diocese, for integrity of morals and skill in theological studies. In the registered wills, frequent benefactions to this religious establishment are recorded. In one of these wills, viz. of John Suyffmore, (Rector of Silfer-ton, and founder of our Lady's chantry, in the parish church there,) dated 18. June, 18. Edw. IV. the name of the following Prior occurs, "I bequethe to Andrew Scarlett, Priour of the Blak Ffrerys of Exeter, a payre of bedys of rede amber, and a payre-white amber." Vid. Regist. Bothe, fo. 126.

The convent was suppressed 12. Sept. 1538, and granted to John Lord Russell, 4. July, 31. Hen. VIII. (1541) Jenkins (in p. 323 of his history,) will have it that this was a "Benedictine monastery, and a foundation of one of the Abbots of Tavistock, to which it was a cell; that in this large and sumptuous building were elegant apartments for the lordly Abbots of Tavistock, whenever they came to Exeter." The absurdity of these assertions cannot be better exposed than by copying the Crown grant.

"*Insuper de uberiore gratiâ nostrâ speciali ac ex certâ scientiâ & mero motu nostris damus & concedimus per presentes pro nobis, heredibus & successoribus nostris prefato Johi Russell, Militi, Baroni Russell, totam domum & scitum nuper Fratrum Predicatorum infra Civitatem Exon jam dissolutam ac totam ecclesiam campanilæ & cimiterium ejusdem domûs nuper Fratrum Predicatorum, ac omnia messuagia, domus, edificia, orrea, stabula, columbaria, molendina, stagna, ortos, Pomaria, gardina, curtilagia, terram & solum tam infra juxta & prope scitum, septum, ambitum, circum-tum & precinctum ejusdem domûs nuper Fratrum Predicatorum predictorum existentia, adeo plenè & integrè ac in tam amplis modo & formâ prout ultimus Prior dicte domus nuper Fratrum Predicatorum predictorum, aut aliquis Predecessorum suorum Priorum ejusdem nuper domûs, in jure nuper domûs illius,*

aliquo tempore ante Dissolutionem ejusdem domus nuper Fratrum Predicatorum, illam habuerunt, tenuerunt vel gavisii fuerunt habuit, tenuit, vel gavisus fuit, seu habere, tenere vel gaudere debuerunt vel debuit."

In the archives of the Corporation of Exeter is a deed of 1352, in which Robert, of Otery, occurs as the then Prior of this Dominican convent.

## FRITHELSTOCK PRIORY.\*

**T**HIS priory, in the neighbourhood of Bideford, was founded by Sir Robert de Bello Campo, or Beauchamp, about the year 1220, for four Regular Canons of the Order of St. Augustine, besides a Prior. The Religious of this house were generally procured from Hartland Abbey; and at every election of the Priors of Frithelstock, the Abbot of Hartland, and any one of the Canons, whom he thought proper to select, had a right to be present and to vote in chapter on the occasion. Moreover the Prior of Frithelstock had always a voice in the election of the Abbots of Hartland.

The conventual church of Frithelstock was dedicated to St. Gregory.

From the registers, so often quoted, I have recovered the following succession of Priors:—

	A. D.
1. <i>Henry Hagnes</i> , instituted in	1262
2. <i>Johel</i> , admitted 25. January,	1275-6
3. <i>Oliver</i> occurs Prior in	1311

He became so exceedingly infirm as to be obliged, by Bishop Stapeldon, to procure a coadjutor in the person of Humfridus, and finally resigned his office in

4. <i>Richard de Bittendene</i> occurs in	1347
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I believe this was the Prior who erected a chapel under the title of our Lady, in nemore extra septa Monasterii contra Sacros Canones, and had divine service performed in it without any episcopal consecration. Bishop Grandis-

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\* Arms. Vairy, Argent & Sable. The shield, I think, of the founder.

A. D.

son, in 1351, ordered it, usque ad aream dirui & funditus demoliri. Vid. 1. Regist. Grandisson, fo. 170.

5. *Thomas Rede* occurs Prior in 1373

6. *John Pynnoke*, occurs in 1379

On the 6. Dec. 1400, Bishop Stafford removed this Prior from the administration of the temporalities, for his imprudence and extravagance. Thomas Rede, a Canon of the house, was charged with their management in his place, 1. Regist. Stafford, fo. 53.

This Prior died early in 1417

7. *Thomas Rede*, admitted as his successor 1417

He died 3. Oct. 1434

8. *Waller Hawys*, succeeded 14. Oct. that year. He governed the house until his death, on 4. January, 1458-9

9. Another *Thomas Rede*, elected Prior on the 22nd of the same month.

He died 11. April, 1465

10. *John Smyth*, a Monk of Hartland Abbey, succeeded 20. June, that year.

11. *John Osborne* was the next Prior.

He died very late in 1508

12. *Thomas Parr*, confirmed Prior on the 10th of the following February.

This Thomas Parr, with Richard Walter, Sub-Prior, and three others, subscribed to the King's supremacy, 2. Sept. 1534

13. *John Sturgeon* was the last Prior.

He was alive in 1553, in the receipt of a pension of £13. 6. 8.

The annual revenues of the priory amounted to £127. 2. 4.

In the 29th of Hen. VIII. the site of the priory was granted to Arthur Plantagenet, afterwards Viscount Lisle.

In the taxatio, I find the following memorandum: £. s. d.

Prior de Ffrethestock habet apud Ffrethest-

stock qd tax ..... 3 1 7

Apud Wyk & Langeford qd taxatur ad ..... 1 9 4

## TOTNES PRIORY.

**T**HIS priory, dedicated to Saint Mary, was a cell to the great Benedictine abbey of Saints Sergius and Bacchus, at Angers; and was endowed, during the reign of William the Conqueror, by Judhell, or Joel, the pious founder of the house of St. Mary Magdalene, at Barnstaple. Roger de Nuatte, who succeeded to Joel's estates, was at first very hostile to this infant establishment; but afterwards befriended it to such a degree, as to be mistaken by Leland for its original founder. Roger's heir was one of the Zouches; and the presentation of the Priors subsisted in this family until the accession of King Henry VII. when the head of the family was attainted for supporting the cause of Richard III. and the right of patronage was conferred by the Crown on Sir Peter Edgcumbe.

The conventual church was dedicated by Bishop Bronescombe, 17. Nov. 1260.

The names of the following Priors occur in the registers:—

1. <i>Nicholas</i> , who occurs in	A. D. 1259
He was still Prior in	1283
2. <i>John</i> occurs in the year	1285
3. <i>Jocelyn</i> , who died in	1323

This Prior was severely admonished on 23. March 1316-7, by Bishop Stapeldon, and threatened with the heaviest ecclesiastical censures, if he persisted in his scandalous neglect of the duty of residence.—Vid. Regist. fo. 118.

4. *Robert de Contá* succeeded.

Bishop Grandisson informed King Edward

III. 1334, that this Prior received the following annual pensions:—

From Alwington Church .....	2 marks.
Stokenham .....	20s.
De la Pole.....	15s.
Pyworthy.....	10s.
Corneworthy .....	1 mark.
Ashprington .....	6 marks.
Loddiswell .....	6 marks.
Harberton .....	6s.

The parish churches of Totnes, Brixham and Clyfton, in the gift of the priory, were then taxed at £36. 13. 4.

This Robert was suspended 24. Dec. 1348, for his dilapidations and imprudence. He seems to have been better adapted for a sportsman than a Religious.

5. *Michael Bouges*, admitted 25. Dec. 1354

6. *John le Rouges* succeeded.

He died in 1372

6. *John Boners* was the next Prior.

He died in 1382

In 1375 Bishop Brantyngham informed King Edward III. that the appropriation of Clyfton church was valued at £40. per annum. of Totnes parish church at £10. of Brixham do. at £40.

Ermington church paid annually to the priory 2 marks.

Corneworthy paid 30s.

8. *Thomas Synforde* succeeded 8. March, 1382-3 and resigned, after governing the house twenty-four years.

9. *John Southam*, instituted 11. June, 1407

I observe that he presented to Broadclyst church in 1413

10. *Thomas Southam* occurs Prior in 1415

In the summer of 1439 bad health obliged him to resign. He was to enjoy a pension of twenty-four marks per an. and to be allowed the chamber which he had built in the priory.

11. *Richard Stoke*, instituted 27. August, 1439

He died very late in 1458

This Prior, by his deed bearing date 3. April,

27. Hen. VI. granted "*Ex. operi novi campanilis fiendi in occidentali parte ecclesie parochialis Tettonie.*"

12. *William Harry*, confirmed on the 5th of the following February, and died Prior after a government of thirty-three years.

13. *William Coke* succeeded on the presentation of King Henry VII. *ratione minoris etatis Petri Eggecombe.*

14. *John Redmayne* occurs Prior in 1501

15. *Robert Hill*, who died late in 1526

16. *Henry Goon*, instituted on the 3d of the ensuing March, and resigned five months after on a pension of forty marks.

17. *Edmund Coker*, a Monk of Glastonbury, succeeded 12. Aug. 1527, and resigned a few months after.

18. *Thomas Rycharde* succeeded in the following February, and, I believe, was the last Prior.

The revenues of the priory were valued, at the Dissolution, at £124. 10s. 2½. per annum.

	£.	s.	d.
In the taxatio it is stated, Prior Totton,			
habet Greston quod taxatur .....	2	0	0
Ashprington tax.....	3	3	4
	<hr/>		
Summa	£5	3	4
	<hr/>		
Decima	£0	10	4
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In the 33d year of King Henry VIII. the scite of the priory was granted to Katharine Champernon, John Ridgway, and Walter Smith.

Peter Eggecombe had endeavoured to obtain the temporalities of this priory and of Cornworthy, but failed in the attempt. The following letter, which he addressed to secretary Cromwell, will, we flatter ourselves, be highly acceptable to our readers:—

Cotton MSS. Cleopatra. E. iv. P. 144. page 258.

"After my most hartie rec'mendacyons w<sup>th</sup> lyke thancks for your goodnes to me att tymys shewyd



and thys ys to advertysse yow y<sup>t</sup> here ys moche comunycacyon and brute y<sup>t</sup> all abbeyes pryorys and nunrys under the cler yerly valew off cc<sup>lb</sup> shall be suppressyd nottw<sup>t</sup> stondynge hyt ys nott as yett in thes p<sup>t</sup>ies olponly knowen the occacyon off suppressyon nor who shall take most benyffyte therby nor to whate usse hyt shall rest at lengthe. But trew hyt ys y<sup>t</sup> I am by the kynggs ffather by hys graunt to my poor ffather made to hym and hys issue male ffounder off the pryory off Tottenes and the Nunry off Cornworthe in devonsshyr and ev<sup>ry</sup> off them be under the valew off cc<sup>lb</sup> and as to Tottenes the pryor ther ys a man off goode v<sup>er</sup>tuus conv<sup>er</sup>sacyon and a good viander and I can do lesse w<sup>t</sup> my truthe and dewty but to adv<sup>er</sup>tysse yow off y<sup>t</sup> I know trew in ys cause hartely besechyng yow so to advertysse the kynggs hynes and y<sup>t</sup> I in my most u<sup>n</sup>byll maner beseche hys grace to order me in ys cause as onne y<sup>t</sup> wyll juberd lyff and goods to do hys grace trew service and hartely besseche allmyghty god longge to p<sup>ro</sup>ss<sup>er</sup>ve hys most nobyll p<sup>ro</sup>ss<sup>on</sup> and yow so to serve hyss hyghnes ffro' my poor howse the day off annarcyacyon of o<sup>ur</sup> lady your own

P. Eggecombe.

Mr. Secretary in case hyt be sso y<sup>t</sup> the kynggs pleass' maye be by your meanys so good y<sup>t</sup>, the p<sup>ro</sup> of Tottenes maye enioye the spirituall p<sup>ro</sup>mocyons and hyt wyll be no better ffor hym and hys breder' to leve on and I to have the temporal possessyons of p<sup>ro</sup>te theroff the sunner ffor con<sup>ver</sup>cyderacyons y<sup>t</sup> I am ffounder off bothe howssys I p<sup>ro</sup>mysse yow by y<sup>t</sup> my wrtyng to co<sup>ver</sup>cyder your favor and sute as I trust to please yow and yf ye thinck my sute nott ressonabyll I refferre me and my cause only to your order under the kynggs hyghnes above all others lyvyng, and so I trust yow and herein I hartely p<sup>ro</sup>ye yow to know your pleass'."

The preceding is, decidedly, a letter written by Sir Piers Eggecombe (now spelt Edgecumbe) to Sir Thomas Cromwell, afterwards Earl of Essex, the noted Vicar General of Hen. VIII. Sir Piers, who had been Sheriff of Devon, 19. Hen. VII. and 20. Hen. VIII. was son of Sir Richard Eggecombe, Camp-

troller of the Household, and Privy Counsellor to the former of these Monarchs, who employed him as ambassador to various states; and was father of Sir Richard Eggecombe, who built Mount-Edgecombe house, and appears to have been well known to Cromwell. The result of a careful comparison of some of the following authorities, fixes the date of the letter to 25. March, 1536. XII. Rym. Fœd. 279. 328. 348. 357. 362. 394. XIII. Idem. 296. XIV. Idem. 478. 529. Stat. 27. Hen. VIII. c. 28. And see Prince's Worthies of Devon, p. 281. & seq. and 2. Collier's Eccles. Hist. pp. 155. 180.

In Lacy's Register, vol. 3. fo. 502, is copied the will of William Ryder, of Totnes, bearing date 18. Nov. 1432: he desires to be buried "in Cemeterio Ecclesie B. Marie de Totton in itinere Processionali juxta Ecclesiam Prioris & Conventus de Totton ex opposito magni Altaris ejusdem Ecclesie."

I observe, in Bishop Stapeldon's Register, that he frequently conferred ordinations in this conventual church.

There was a chantry super pontem—ad finem Pontis de Totton, dedicated to St. Edmund, King and Martyr, and St. Edward the Confessor, to which the Zouche family presented. The chapel of the Holy Ghost and of St. Catharine, at Warland, near Totnes, was begun to be erected 1270, "proxima die Veneris post festum S. Matthei Apli, recepti Datus Epus seysinam domuum & gardini Walteri de Bon & uxoris sue de consensu eorundem in presentia multitudinis & precepit ut capella ibi construeretur in nomine Sancti Spiritus & Beate Katharine virginis." Vid. Regist. Bronescombe fo. 37. Generally a Priest of the Order of the Holy Trinity of the house of "Hondelesowe," in the diocese of London, was appointed to serve this chapel; but the collation to it was absolutely vested in the Bishops of Exeter. Vid. 2. Reg. Stafford, fo. 53. Bishop Oldam at last annexed the chapel to the Vicars' College in Exeter. Vid. Regist. Oldam, fo. 49.

## CANONSLEIGH NUNNERY.\*

**W**ILLIAM CLAVILL, Lord of Burlescombe, near Tiverton, founded a house for Canons Regular of the Rule of St. Augustine, towards the latter end of the 12th century.

I have met with the names of two Priors only.

A. D.

1. *Henry de Crewnmake*, admitted by Bishop Bronescombe, 17. Dec. 1260

2. *William de Honeton*, instituted by Bishop Quivill, 26. Feb. 1282-3

In the interesting document given in the Appendix (o) and dated as far back as 1219, it is stated, that the Prior of Plympton was always to receive notice when a Prior was to be elected at Canonsleigh, † in order that he might assist at the election, if he judged proper; but still, without the right and liberty of voting. If the community could not agree in the choice of a Prior from their own convent, they were to elect any Canon they pleased from the monastery of Plympton, in preference to any house of the Rule of St. Augustine.

Scarcely had two years elapsed from the institution of the Prior, William de Honeton, when the monastery was made over (for what reason I cannot

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\* In a deed, penes Majorem & Communitatem Civitatis Exon, is a release of the claim to a house in Exeter, by the Prior and Convent of Canonsleigh. Bartholomew, Archdeacon of Exeter, (who died in Sept. 1247,) is a subscribing witness. The seal represents the Blessed Virgin and St. John standing under the Cross. The only words of the inscription remaining are, *Marie et Sci Johis Evan.*

† This religious establishment at Legh, retains its original name of Canonsleigh, from the Canons who first settled there. In some ancient records, it is called Mynchynleye, from the Nuns who succeeded these Canons.

discover) to Regular Canonesses of the same Order. The noble Lady Matilda, the Countess of Gloucester and Hereford, undertook to endow the new community. On the 16th of August, 1285, I find she had deposited six hundred marks in Bishop Quivill's hands, for the use and advantage of the Nunnery, "in opus & utilitatem Abbathie de Lyge."—Vid. Regist. Quivill, fo. 129.

Bishop Stapeldon, fo. 86. Regist. states, that she had assembled no less than fifty Religious women at Canonsleigh, and had proposed to endow the convent with sufficient lands and revenues; but that her premature death, and a combination of troublesome occurrences, had prevented the accomplishment of her pious intentions; and that the community in consequence was left in the most deplorable situation. In compassion for their distress, this considerate Bishop appropriated to their use and enjoyment the parish church of Donesford, 5. August, 1314. Three days after, the convent bound themselves to pay the Dean and Chapter of Exeter, the annual sum of four marks, on the Feast of the Invention of the Holy Cross. This pension, I believe, was directed by Bishop Stapeldon, to be distributed amongst the residentiary Canons of his cathedral.

On 17. June, 1333, Bishop Grandisson appropriated to them the parish church of Rockbear. Amongst other articles specified in the grant, he desires "ut de proventibus Ecclesie de Rockbeare assignetur ad \* Servissiam suam meliorandum singulis septimanis unus bussellus frumenti."—Vid 2. Regist. Grandisson, fo. 6-7.

This Religious house was dedicated to the Blessed Mary, St. John the Evangelist, and St. Etheldreda, the saintly Abbess of Ely, who died in 679.

I can recover but the few following names of the Abbesses:—

1. *Margaret Avnger*, who died in the summer of

A. D.

1345

2. *Juliana Lampre*, confirmed as her successor  
18. October that year.

3. *Lucy Warr*, who died 11. Oct. 1410

4. *Mary Beauchamp* succeeded 3. Dec. that  
year.

She died 6. December, 1449

5. *Jane Arundell* succeeded 19. March fol-  
lowing.

6. *Elizabeth Fouhill*, or *Fowell*, the last  
Prioress, who surrendered her convent 16. Feb. 1538

£. s. d.

At the Dissolution, the revenues of  
the convent were annually, according  
to Dugdale,

Speed computes their value at 197 3 1

In the *Taxatio* I read as follows:— 202 15 3

Abbas de Leya percipit de Honesham ..... 0 1 0

Apud Donneford .. ..... 10 0 0

Apud Lomenegh de redd ..... 0 18 6

Apud Bicheton ..... 1 4 0

Apud Reggeber ..... 1 3 4

The churches of Hockeford, (Oakford) Burles-  
combe, Rockbear, Bridestow and Dunsford, were in  
their gift. They had property in Hempston Arun-  
dell aliter Lytel Hempston, in the county of Devon;  
at Morden, in the county of Dorset; and at Chepyn,  
in the county of Somerset, as I find in their leases.

The following pensions were granted 17. May. 31.  
Hen. VIII.

	£.	s.	d.
To the Abbess, Elizabeth Fowell...	40	0	0
Margaret Pollard .....	5	0	0
Thomasine Sutton .....	5	0	0
Elizabeth Carewe .....	5	0	0
Jane Abree .. .. .	4	0	0
Jane Bowyer .....	4	0	0
Agnes Dulond .....	4	0	0
Phelippa Fortescue .....	4	0	0
Sabina Cowystone .....	4	0	0
Christina Holbayne .....	4	0	0
Elena Aysshelforde .....	4	0	0
Alice Bounde .....	4	0	0
Mary Pomeri .....	4	0	0

	£.	s	d
Elizabeth Chudley .....	4	0	0
Agnes Pery .....	4	0	0
Agnes Bratton .....	4	0	0
Sibilla Fowell ... ..	2	0	0

Henry VIII. 30. December, 31st year of his reign, leased this monastery and its estates in Devon and Somerset, to Thomas de Gorlemont, of London, gentleman, for a term of twenty-one years, for the annual sum of £23. 14. 2.

Four years after, for what reason I know not, the King granted the scite of the nunnery to John St. Leger, esq.

There was a chapel dedicated to All Saints, *infra Monasterium de Legh*; and another dedicated to the Holy Trinity, at Westleigh, in Burlescombe parish.—Vide 1. Regist. Brantyngham, fo. 220. ad. ann. 1391.

Another chapel of St. Thomas, *infra Monasterium de Legh*, is mentioned *ib* fo. 195. ad. ann. 1388.

There was an "honesta capella Sei Theobaldi Monasterio de Legh contigua".—*ib* fo. 80. ad. ann. 1373.

## CORNWORTHY PRIORY.

**I** AM not able to satisfy myself concerning the founder of this priory. The foundation has been assigned to the Edgcumbe family; but I think the arguments are in favor of the Zouches.

In the registers, the priory is generally styled Augustine: in one or two instances, however, it is said to be Benedictine; but this is probably a mistake of the Bishop's Secretary. The community was small. Tanner says, it was founded for seven Religious women; but I observe that only five Nuns had a voice at the election of Honora Vyvyan, 28. May, 1461. On account of the poverty of the convent, it was generally exempted from paying the King's tenth. The Religious presented to the churches of Cornworthy, Clawton and Merland.

### NAMES OF PRIORESSES.

- |  | A. D.        |
|--|--------------|
| 1. <i>Jane Fisher</i> , who died early in  | 1334         |
| 2. <i>Mabella de Bradford</i> succeeded.   |              |
| 3. <i>Jane Lucy</i> , who died 3. Oct.   | 1411         |
| 4. <i>Eleanor Blake</i> succeeded on 28. next February.                                    |              |
| 5. <i>Margaret Wortheham</i> .<br>She resigned her office early in                         | 1461         |
| 6. <i>Honora Vyvyan</i> succeeded her on 28. May that year.                                |              |
| 7. <i>Thomasina Dynham</i> occurs Prioress<br>She resigned late in                         | 1501<br>1519 |
| 8. <i>Avisia Dynham</i> , elected as her successor on 30. of the ensuing month of January. |              |

Bishop Veysey addressed a mandate to this Prioress,  
2. Reg. fo. 7.

At the Dissolution, the priory was valued at  
£63. 3. per annum.

In the second year of Elizabeth, the priory was  
granted to Edward Harris and John Williams.

*Bishop Veysey's Mandate, dated from Chudleigh,*  
19. Jan. 1520-1.

John by God's permission Bishop of Exceet, to  
owre wel belovyd Sisters in Criste, the Piores and  
covent of Corneworthy, saluting in o Lord Jhu.  
Forasmuch we enterly desyre to purge the slaunder  
that hath ensued yn yo Howse by trasgression of  
Religion, We have sende youe certyn o ordinas ac-  
cordinge to the Lawys of Holy Church yn Engleshe,  
the rather by you to be understand and kept as here  
after folowynges shall evydently apere. Ffirst we com-  
maunde youe Prioress in vertu of Obedience to see  
Divine Serves in due tyme, place and forme by the  
hoole covent, except age, sykenes or other lawfull  
evydent cawse lett, be devoutly withowte vayne  
corcacon celebrate accordyng to yo nombre, as yn  
other devoute places of yor religion it is observed  
and kepte. Fforthermore nyghtly ye Piores with  
all the Covent to rest in one Dorter, all severall  
chambers and backedores utterly excluded. Also in  
the Frat' togeders take y repast attending to yor  
contemplative lectour there to be redde. Also that  
ye use no pompos apparell; but such as ys used in the  
sadde Howses of yr Religion. Also we inhibette youe  
to receve Sugeners withowte or speciall licence, com-  
maundyng youe Piores in vertue of obedience to  
remove from yor house withyn a moneth after the  
recepcon hereoff all the servauntes nott necessary  
for the place, and also Bryton and his wyffe for con-  
sideracons reasonable which we shall disclose unto  
youe hereaft. Alway ye and the covent havynge in  
yor remembrance the thre substancialls of yor Reli-  
gion which ye have professed. Ffirst obedience,  
forsakyng yr awnwe ylle. Secunde, chastite, for  
the violacon whereoff withoute great repentance and  
bye m'ey of God, is sorrow ppetuall. The thyrd,  
abdicakon of Propete, forsakyng the worldle solici-



tude. Ffro the bett conservacon whereoff; and that ye Piores may the rather give yselffe to contemplacon and religious conversacon, We utterly inhibet youe to intermeddle yn yor awne persone with any uttwarde husbandre, wandrynge yn the fylds and other prophane places irreligiously oute of the Piores and that all such exterior besynes be done by some discreet virtuouse man that can and woll diligely and polytyckly do the same. Thes premisses with all other rulis and observaunces of yor Religion accordyng to ye nombre, we commaunde youe Piores under the payne of the lawe to be effectually kepte opynly published, redde and declared that ye and yor Systers too herynge them, may observe the same to the confusyon of a goostly enymye the Deryll, salvacon of ye sawles, honor of Religion and owre excuse before God. God encrease youe with hys vertue and hys grace.

Wryten the place, day of the month, and yere above sayd.

## MODBURY PRIORY.

“**T**HERE was a house of Monks Aliens of the French Order at Modbyri. The scite of their mansion is yet seene on the north side of the chirche. The founder was there scant knowen. I take it that Ruan or Oxtou were founders of it. This priory, with the personage of Modbyri impropriate was given yn King Edward IV. tyme to Eyeton college.”—So far Leland in his Itin. vol. 3. p. 48.

This account is very imperfect. It is certain, from the registers of this See, that the honor of the foundation is to be ascribed to the Chambernour family, called in Latin De Campo Arnulphi; and that the right of patronage continued in that family\* until the dispersion of the community. It further appears, from the registers, that the establishment consisted of two Monks and a Prior; and that it depended on the great Benedictine House,† Sanctæ Mariæ de Sancto Petro super Dynam in the diocese of Seez, in Normandy, the Abbots of which exclusively nominated the Priors of Modbury.

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\* This ancient family resided formerly at Modbury. The ancient house and domain of Dartington, where the family has now fixed its residence, was originally the property of the Martyns. I find that the Martyns presented to St. Mary's church, at Dartington, in 1261, in 1318, and in 1348—that afterwards it passed into the Cornewayll family—then into the Dukes of Exeter: that Margaret, Countess of Richmond and Derby, and mother of King Henry VII. presented in 1499—that King Henry VIII. presented in July 1511, and that Henry Courtenay, Knight of the Garter, Baron of Oakhampton and Plympton, Earl of Devon, and Marquess of Exeter, presented in the month of July, A. D. 1521.

† Dugdale seems to have been unacquainted with the existence of this abbey.

Venerabili in Xto Patri, Domino Dei gratiâ Abbati Monasterii Beate Marie de Sancto Petro suprâ Dynam in Normanniâ Johannes (Grandissontis) miseratione ejusdem Exon Epus salutem & sinceram in Domino caritatem. Relatione querulâ nobilis viri Domini Ricardi de Campo Arnulphi, Domini de Modbury, Militis, repetitis vicibus nostris est auribus inculcatum, quod licet in Prioratû dicti loci, qui ex devotione Progenitorum suorum fundari dignoscitur, duo consuerunt & debuerunt monachi de vestro Monasterio assumendi, nostrâque auctoritate approbandi, loci ejusdem unâ cum Priore recipi & admitti, unus tamen monachus contra intentionem Fundatoris per vos *noviter est adjunctus*, propter quod Hospitalitas in eodem Prioratû servari & alia incumbentia eidem comodè nequeunt onera supportari, eo quod ex hac causâ premissâ Prioratûs non suppetunt facultates. Nos igitur ex injuncto nobis solitudinis debito cupientes laudabile Fundatoris hujus propositum prosecui & fovere, fratrem Nicholaum de Curceyo, monachum vestrum, exhibitoem presencium nuper inibi residentem ad relevationem oneris & expensarum hujusmodi, ad vos duximus, prout convenit, remittendum. Ad tutelam & regimen gregis vestri diu in Domino valeatis, qui spiritum consilii & fortitudinis vobis tribuat in agendis. Datum in manerio nostro de Chuddelegh idibus Januarii A. D. 1328. Ex 2. Regist. Grandisson, fo. 104.

This being an alien priory, its temporalities were often seized by the Crown during the wars between England and France. In the reign of \* Henry VI. it was finally dissolved, and its revenues appropriated to his noble foundation of Eton College. A short time after King Edward IV. conveyed this very property to his favourite abbey of Tavistock; but it was afterwards restored to Eton College, probably by King Henry VII.

The revenues, at the period of the dissolution, of the priory, were rated at £70. per annum.

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\* Dugdale is incorrect in stating that Modbury Priory was dissolved in 1414, second year of Henry V. William Benselyn being confirmed Prior by Bishop Lacy, in March 1429-30.

In the Taxatio I read as follows:—

Prior de Modbury habet in Penwyk	
quod taxatur	£2 3 4
Decima	0 4 4

I believe the following to be a complete succession of the Priors from the year 1270 until the dissolution of the house in the reign of King Henry VI.

- |   |       |
|---|-------|
|   | A. D. |
| 1. <i>Vincent de Fulchis</i> , admitted 21. July,   | 1275  |
| 2. <i>Nicholas</i> , confirmed as Prior 21. Sept.   | 1321  |
| On this occasion John de Oxtou, Knight,             |       |
| presented to Bishop Stapeldon.                      |       |
| 3. <i>William</i> occurs Prior in                   | 1334  |
| During his government, Modbury church,              |       |
| appropriated to the priory, was rated at £10.       |       |
| per an.—Vid. Grandisson's Register.                 |       |
| 4. <i>John de Ffovea</i> , admitted 14. June,       | 1345  |
| 5. <i>John Gallerus</i> , admitted 9. June,         | 1349  |
| He died in  | 1351  |
| 6. <i>Robert de Curceyo</i> succeeded, and died     |       |
| early in  | 1362  |
| 7. <i>Philip de Ffurnariis</i> , succeeded 5. April |       |
| that year.  |       |

On the occasion of his presentation, the following letters, which are copied from 2. Regist. Grandisson, fo. 141. passed between the Abbot of our Lady de Sancto Petro and Thomas Champernowne:—

Nobili & potenti viro Thome de Campo Arnulphi, Domino Modburie, frater Hebertus permissione divinâ Abbas Monasterii Beate Marie de Sancto Petro super Dynam, Ordinîs Sci Benedicti, Sagiensis Diocesis, totusque ejusdem loci Conventus, salutem in eo qui est omni vera salus.

Ad Prioratûm nostrum Modburie liberum & vacantem per mortem Roberti de Curceyo, dicti Monasterii nostri Monachi, ultimi immediati Prioris ejusdem Prioratûs, Religiosum virum fratrem Philippum Ffurnarii, Monasterii nostri Monachum, Presbyterum & Professum, & laudabiliter in dicto Monasterio nostro conversatum, in quantum vos tangit & quantum in jure

tenemur, ad regimen dicti Prioratûs nostri vobis nominamus per presentes literas & per vos Reverendo in Christo Patri ac Dno Dno Exonien Epo ipsum mittimus præsentandum, vobis humiliter supplicantes, quatenûs eundem, ad nominationem nostram predictam, caritatis intuitu vobis placeat predicto Reverendo Patri libere presentare & ipsum in agendis suis Monasterii nostri intuitu consulere & favorabiliter conferre. Benè & diu valeat in Dno vestra Dominatio nobis cara. Septum\* & actum in Abbatiâ nostrâ 3â die Marcii A. D. 1361.

Tenor Presentationis facte per Thomam de Campo Arnulphi.

Venerabili in Xto Patri ac Dno Dno Johi Dei gratiâ, Exon Epo, suus, si placet, humilis & devotus Thomas de Campo Arnulphi, obedientiam & reverentiam cum honore.

Ad Prioratum Modburie, vestre Diocesis per mortem fratris Roberti de Curceyo, ultimi & immediati Prioris ejusdem Prioratûs vacantem & ad meam presentationem spectantem, fratrem Philippum Ffurnarii, monachum Monasterii Beate Marie de Sancto Petro super Dynam, Ordinis Sci Benedicti, Sagiensis Diocesis, Presbyterum & Professum, ac per fratrem Hebertum, Abbatem Monasterii predicti & ejusdem loci Conventum michi nominatum, vestre Paternitati Reverende Presento per presentes, humiliter supplicans & devotè, quatenûs eundem Philippum in Priorem dicti Prioratûs ad meam presentationem admittere velitis, ceteraque vestro officio Pastoralis incumbencia, caritatis intuitu peragere dignemini. In cujus rei testimonium sigillum meum presentibus apposui. Datum apud Modbury quarto die Mensis Aprilis 1362.

8. *Gilbert de Billeyo* succeeded.

He died prior in the spring of

1375.

In his time Modbury church was taxed £20. per annum.

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\* i. e. Cœptum.

9. *John Mychel* succeeded, and resigned his office at the end of twenty-three years.

10. *John Rogger* succeeded early in 1398 and was translated 18. Dec. 1406, to the office of Prior of Tywardrayth, Cornwall.

11. *Richard Leycestre*, admitted on 27th of the following February.

He died Prior late in the year 1415

12. *William Ffranchillon* succeeded on 9th of the following January.

He resigned in the summer of 1423

13. *Adam Prianho, or de Pratellis al' Pry-deaux*, appointed Prior 18. July, 1423

14. *William Benselyn* succeeded 18. March, 1429-30, and, I believe, was the last Prior of Modbury.

## BARNSTAPLE PRIORY.\* •

**T**HIS Cluniac priory, dedicated to St. Mary Magdalene, was founded in the reign of William the Conqueror, by Joel, the son of Alured, and made dependent on St. Martin's in the Fields, near Paris. In the deed of foundation, (which may be seen l. Dugd. Monast. p. 684.) Joel grants to the Religious, Pilton, with the wood and marsh, Pilland; the mill at Barnstaple; all the land without the walls between the north and the east gates, with all the waters, fish, &c. moreover, the church of Barnstaple, and the chapel of St. Sabinus, with their appurtenances.

From a passage, Regist. Bronescombe fo. 33. it appears, that the community consisted of thirteen members. Being an alien priory, its revenues were frequently seized during the wars between England and France. But at last it was made denizen, probably in the reign of, Henry VI. and so it continued until the general suppression of religious houses. The registers supply the following series of the Priors from the year 1265:—

- |   | A. D. |
|---|-------|
| 1. <i>Simon Gurneye</i> , admitted Prior in August  | 1265  |
| 2. <i>Theobald de Curtipalatio</i> followed 29.   |       |
| June,   | 1275  |
| 3. <i>John</i> occurs Prior in the year   | 1314  |
| 4. <i>John de Sanctá Gemmá.</i>   |       |
| He scandalously neglected the duty of residence, and was obliged to tender his resignation to Bishop Grandisson, late in the year | 1332  |
| 5. <i>John Soyer</i> succeeded 18th of the following March.   |       |

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\* Arms. Gules, a bend, Or; a Label of three Points Argent.

6. *Imbertus de Gaumachiis*, admitted on the death of John Soyer, 10. Dec. 1334
7. *Reginaldus Pirdoc* succeeded 9. Dec. 1349  
and resigned in the summer of 1351
8. *Roger Hayn*, admitted 7. November, 1351  
He died soon after.
9. *Richard Carre, or Cary*, succeeded, and died late in the year 1376  
Whilst he was Prior, the parish church of Barnstaple\* was valued at 200 marks.
10. *Ralph Chelfham*, who died early in 1392
11. *Henry Sulton* succeeded 28. May the same year, and died six years after.
12. *Simon Sele*, admitted in September, 1398  
and died 15. June, 1428
13. *Hugo Lyton* succeeded 28. July, the same year, and died 16. December, 1461
14. *John Pyllon* was confirmed as his successor.
15. *John Ilfracombe*, who resigned early in 1502
16. *John Pyllon* followed, and after governing the priory 16 years, resigned on a pension of £20.
17. *Robert Thorn* succeeded 12. Aug. 1518  
In Risdon's Survey of Devon, p. 327, we read, that "this Prior, for his device, bare a row-buck leaning to a hawthorne in an escutcheon, with the word Bert interposed, and this under-written: Caprum cum spinâ protegat divina potestas."
- He surrendered his convent to the King's Commissioners 4. Feb. 27. Hen. VIII.
- He was alive in 1553, and in the enjoyment of a pension of £14. per annum.
- The revenues of the priory were valued at £123. 6. 7. according to Dugdale, though Speed rates them at £129. 15. 3.
- In the Taxatio I read as follows:— £. s. d.
- |   |   |    |   |
|---|---|----|---|
| Prior de Barnstapol percipit in capellis de Clifton & Hatheline | 0 | 3  | 0 |
| In ecclesia de Barnstapol                                       | 1 | 10 | 0 |

\* This parish church, with its high altar and three other altars, was consecrated by Bishop Stapeldon, 9. Sept. 1319.



	£.	s.	d.
In ecclesia de Ffremyton	0	8	0
In eccia de Hamme (George)	2	0	0
In Decanatu Barum de terris & redditibus	2	10	0
Apud Waleworthi et Kymelonde tax ad	0	15	0

In the grant of the priory and its estates to Lord William Howard, of Effingham, 9. March, 29. Hen. VIII. it is stated, that the Vicar of Barnstaple used annually to pay to the convent of St. Mary Magdalene.. .. .	100s.
The Rector of Georgeham used to pay.....	100s.
The Rector of Fremington.....	30s.
The Borough of Barnstaple .....	40s.

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£13 10

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For a copy of the Royal Grant see Appendix (p).

In Regist. Grandisson, fo. 154. I observe the Bishop approves and confirms the grant of a castle at Barnstaple, for the residence of Augustine Monks, by Sir James Gaudeleye. The confirmation is dated from Chudleigh 9. June, 1348. See also 2. Regist. Brantyngham, fo. 23.

The chantry of St. Thomas, on Barnstaple bridge, is frequently mentioned in the registers.

In vol. 2. of Hist. of Abbeys, p. 66. Browne Willis states the pensions paid to the incumbents of St. Anne's Chantry, St. George's Chantry, Rowllins's Chantry and the Free Chapel at Barnstaple.

## PILTON PRIORY.

**T**HIS religious establishment was a cell to the great Benedictine abbey of Malmesbury, in Wiltshire; but it should be remarked, that the Priors of Pilton were perpetual; *i. e.* when once appointed to the office, they could not be removed without being convicted of a canonical fault. Leland asserts, that King Æthelstan was the founder of the priory; but produces no proof. The property of the house was small; most of the lands in its neighbourhood being in the possession of Barnstaple Priory. Pilton Priory was dedicated to our Lady.

### PRIORS OF PILTON.

	A. D.
1. <i>Ralph</i> occurs Prior about the year in a deed respecting the Lepers' House at Pilton.—See 12. Archæolog. p. 211.	1200
2. <i>Adams</i> , admitted Prior 4. May,	1261
3. <i>Richard de Raleigh</i> succeeded 29. August,	1282
4. <i>John de Stanlegh</i> , appointed 2. Dec.	1283
5. <i>William Wrockeshale</i> , who died in	1316
6. <i>Henry de Peckyngehall</i> , who resigned in the spring of	1336
7. <i>John de Rockynham</i> succeeded 17. of the following May.	
8. <i>John de Lakenhull</i> , who died early in	1349
9. <i>Simon de Aucneye</i> , instituted 8. May, that year, and was Prior about 4 months.	
10. <i>John de Rodebourne</i> , confirmed 12. Oct.	1349
11. <i>Thomas Brokenborwe</i> , admitted 25. Jan.	1362
12. <i>John</i> occurs Prior in the year	1397

A. D.

13. *William Charleton* succeeded, the following year, and held his office until his death, in the winter of 1412
14. *Richard Kengeswode* succeeded on the 4. of the following January, 1412-3  
He died in December, 1421
15. *Thomas Evesham*, who died early in 1434
16. *William Worcester*, admitted 23. July, that year. He died in January 1445-6
17. *John Andover* succeeded, but was elected Abbot of Malmsbury the next year.
18. *Robert Upton*, admitted 8. April. 1457  
He died in the summer of 1472
19. *Thomas Oldeston* succeeded him 26. Aug.
20. *William Ryngswood*, who died in 1502
21. *John Beaumont*, admitted 18. October, and died early in 1513
22. *William Alday* succeeded, and was Prior for four years.
23. *Simon Rumsey* succeeded 22. August, 1517  
and died late in 1527
24. *John Ross*, confirmed as his successor 19. Dec. that year, and I believe was the last Prior of Pilton. For he and Richard Pilton and John Cawe, subscribed to the King's supremacy, 3. Sept. 1534.

At the Dissolution, says Tanner, the scite was purchased by Sir John Chichester. Q. If the purchase was not made by Thomas Chichester, esq. 44. Elizabeth ?  
The revenues of Pilton amounted to £56. 12. 8.

In the Taxatio I read thus :

## PRIOR DE PILTON PERCIPIT

	£.	s.	d.
In ecciâ de Mortehe .....	0	8	0
De ecciâ de Merwood .....	0	5	0
Habet Tytenhale de redd .....	0	16	0
Apud Lallegh tax ad .....	1	0	0
Apud Midelcote .....	0	15	0
Apud Paracombe .....	0	10	0
Apud Helegh .....	1	10	8

There was a Lepers' House at Pilton? Bishop Brantyngham 9. January, 1375, granted an indulgence of forty days, to all who should contribute

to the support of the said house, dedicated to St. Margaret. The following curious document is copied from Bronescombe's Register, fo. 18. I observe it repeated fo- 113. of Bishop Quivill's.

Kalendis Maii Anno Gratie 1261 hec compositio facta est inter Walterum Episcopum, Decanum & Capitulum Exon ex parte unâ & Willelmum Abbatem, Conventum ac Monasterium Malmeburiense, Salesbir Dioc ex alterâ Videlicet cûm inter Episcopum, Decanum & Capitulum Exon & Abbatem, Conventum & Monasterium predictum super jure & possessione Officii Visitationis jure Ordinario exercendi in cellâ Beate Marie de Pilton, Exon Dioc, ad predictum Monasterium Malmsb. pertinente, necnon & modo instituendi & destituendi Priores seu administratores in Cellâ memoratâ, suborta esset materia questionis, tandem inter partes ipsas de licium fluctibus ad pacis quietem transire volentes, questio predicta in hunc modum realiter conquievit, Videlicet, quòd predictus Episcopus & Successores sui poterunt ipsam nomine suo & Ecclesie Exon Cellam predictam de Pilton jure Ordinario sine reclamazione de cetero visitare & que correctione indigebunt in rebus & personis Canonice instaurabunt, hoc adhibito moderamine ad gravamen sumptuum Monasterii & Celle predict vitandum in hac parte, quod ejusdem loci Priores dicto Episcopo & ejus Successoribus nomine cujuslibet procurationis ratione Visitationis, debite seu debende XX solidos sterlingorum duntaxat impendant. Prefati itaque Abbas & Conventus Malms. & eorum successores dictam Cellam Pilton per mortem, cessionem, resignationem seu alio modo legitimo vacantem, idoneas successivè personas, Priores seu administratores instituendos ibidem, dicto Dno Episcopo & ejus Successoribus de cetero presentabunt, qui curam, administrationem seu regimen ab eodem Episcopo & ejus Successoribus recipient, & nisi eis aliquid canonicum obsistat, sine difficultate admittent. Et ut hoc perpetuò inviolabiliter observetur inter partes, Episcopus, Decanus, Capitulum, Abbas & Conventus predicti tenore presencium hujusmodi modo se obligant in perpetuum. Et presenti scripto sigilla sua ad, perpetuam rei memoriam alternatim apposuerunt.

## SLAPTON.

**T**HE manor of Slapton was held of the Bishops of Exeter by the Earls of Devon, on condition of acting as stewards at the installation feast of every new bishop. The composition to this effect, between Bishop Stapeldon and Hugh de Courtenay, Earl of Devon, is dated from Newton Plympton, Dominica in crastino Beati Thome Apostoli A. D. 1308.—Vid. 1. Regist. Brantyngham, fo. 36. ad calcem: and Blount's Ancient Tenures, p. 34.

A collegiate church, with a perpetual chantry of five Priests and a Rector and four Clerks, was founded at Slapton, in honor of our Lady, by Sir Guy de Briant or Brene, about the year 1370. In 1. Regist. Brantyngham, fo. 54. is preserved the following document:

Noverint universi me Guydonem de Brene Militem, Seniore, Domui de Slapton concessisse, assignasse & presenti scripto meo confirmasse Dno Willelmo Batokeweye, Capellano & *quinque* sociis suis Presbyteris & *quatuor* Clericis in Capellâ Beate Marie infra Manerium de Slapton consistente, in Divinis Dno servientibus, pro dote Cantarie in prefatâ Capellâ ordiendâ ac sustentacione dictorum Presbyterorum & Clericorum unum annualem redditum L marcarum annuatim percipiendum de dicto Manerio meo de Slapton, Habendum & percipiendum predicto Wille et dictis sociis suis et clericis antedictis ac eorum Successoribus imppetunum, juxta vim formam et effectum literarum Apostolicarum Reverendo in Xto Patri Exon Epo, ad fundandum ibi dictam Cantariam

& ad uniendum, incorporandum sive appropriandum ecclesiam Parochialem de Slapton Exon Dioc, dictis Cantarie Presbyteris & Clericis in hac parte directarum. In cujus rei testimonium, presentibus sigillum meum apposui hiis testibus discretis viris, Magistris Thomâ de Walkyngton Decretorum, Johanne de Schillyngford, Legum Doctoribus, & Hugone Hiclyng, Bachalar in Legibus & pluribus aliis. Datum apud Chnddelegh die Jovis in festo Sci Matthei Apostoli & Evangeliste, anno Regni Regis Edwardi III. post Conquestum, XLVIII.

From fo. 74. of the same vol. it appears, that the founder appropriated to the college the parish church of Poundstock in Cornwall.

I further observe, in 2. Regist. Stafford, fo. 289. that Lodeswell church was appropriated to this college in the year 1413.

The Socii of the Rector \* were always priests: one of them had the charge of the parishioners of Slapton, and was called Minister.

## RECTORS.

A. D

1. *William de Batokeweye.*
2. *John Bryan*, instituted 24. July, 1371
3. *Richard Bakewell* succeeded 7. August, 1373
4. *Waller Trote*, admitted 26. Nov. 1375
5. *William Trey* followed, 13. Aug. 1381
6. *Robert Hankesworth*, appointed 11. Nov. 1386
7. *Waller Danyel*, confirmed 8. May, 1400
8. *John Robryng*, instituted 3. June, 1410
9. *Benedict Brente* succeeded in 1426
- He died 3. Feb. 1458-9
10. *John Pawle*, instituted 24. of the following March, on the presentation of James Osmond, Earl of Wiltshire, and Lord of Slapton Manor.
11. *Vincent Coke*, who died Rector 21. Sept. 1498
12. *Nicholas Morton* succeeded, on the presentation of Henry Earl of Northumberland.

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\* Ecton, in his Thesaurus, calls the Superior of the college, Prior, instead of, Rector.

He was alive in

1521

Browne Willis, vol. 2. p. 65. of his History of Abbies, informs us, that in 1534, the acknowledgement of the King's supremacy was given with the seal of the Rector and Fellows, but without names.

The chantry of Slapton was granted to John Peter, 6. Edw. VI.

## HACCOMBE ARCHPRESBYTERY.

**I**T is singular, that the public notary has omitted to affix the date to the foundation deed of the Archpresbytery of Hacombe, as given in 2. Regist. Grandisson, fo. 14. But by comparing this record with the institution of the first Archpriest, Andrew de Tregors, in fo. 46. of the 3d vol. of the same Bishop's Register, I am clearly of opinion that it must have been drawn up either very late in the year 1341, or in the early part of 1342.

This foundation deed states, that Sir Stephen de Hacombe had formerly applied to Bishop Grandisson, to erect the parish church of St. Blase, at Hacombe,\* the burial place of his ancestors, into an Archpresbytery—that before the Prelate could have complied with his wishes, the worthy Knight was taken off by death—that his heir Sir John Lercedekne had fully entered into the views and wishes of the deceased, by renewing the application to the Bishop—that the Bishop most readily accedes to his request; and consents to the appropriation of the parish church of St. Hugh de Quedyock, in Cornwall, for the better support of the Archpriest and his community. It should be clearly understood, that this Archpriest enjoyed no episcopal powers whatsoever—that he was subject, not merely to the visitation and jurisdiction of the Bishop of the diocese of Exeter, but moreover, to that of the Archdeacon of

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\* On the 14. Kal. of August, (July 19.) 1328, Bishop Grandisson dedicated this parish church of Hacombe, with its two altars and the cemetery. Sir Henry Carew, Bart. the present proprietor, is now engaged in the embellishing of this church, with a magnificent gothic altar, chancel-screen, stone pulpit, and other decorations, designed by Mr. John Kendall, of Exeter.



Totnes—and that the only difference between him and a simple parish Priest consisted in this,—that he was also the President and Superiour of a community of clergymen, who were called his Socii, or companions. These clergymen were five in number, and were bound to sing the canonical office, and to celebrate perpetual obits—they dwelled under the same roof with the Archpriest, and lived in common. The Archpriest was obliged to pay six marks per annum to the treasury of the Cathedral church of Exeter.

We may here remark that the Rural Deans were styled Archpriests in some countries. *Decani Rurales in aliquibus regionibus Archipresbyteri nominantur.* See the Constitutions of Pope Benedict XII. A. D. 1335. in 2. Spelman's Councils, fo. 505.

*È 2. Regisl. Grandisson, fo. 14.*

Universis &c. Johannes &c. salutem in sinceris amplexibus Salvatoris. Cum multa nobis sint de studio devocionis olim dilecti filii Domini Stephani de Haocomb, militis, ad Deum & Divini cultûs augmentum in Parochiali Ecclesiâ de Haccomb, nre Diocesis, in quâ ipse, dum viveret, jus obtinuit patronatûs & in quâ corpora ejus & suorum Progenitorum traduntur ecclesiastice Sepulture, placidâ insinuatione suggesta, ita cordi nostro est ejus intentio devota, ut ea que rationabiliter erant sibi concedenda vivo, eciam concedamus defuncto & eò libenciùs, qd dilectus filius Dominus Johes Lercedekne, Miles, qui sicut eidem Dno Stephano in Temporalibus Heres substituitur, ita devocionem ipsius, cujus velut Fidei commissarius fidelis curam suscepit, imitatus, explanando sepè nobis suum et dicti Domini Stephani circa premissa amplectendi desiderium & petendo sepiùs in declarationem devocionis dicti Stephani & sue Fidei, ad Divini cultûs augmentum in dictâ Ecclesiâ perpetuum Archipresbyteratûs Officium & infrascriptum Presbyterorum numerum, premissâ solempnitate debita, statuere sub modis & porcionibus subdistinctis. Considerantes igitur, qd illa benigno sunt concedenda favore, per que Divinus cultus augeri valeat & pia defunctorum vota salubriter adimpleri, dilectos filios

Decanum & Capitulum Ecclesie nre Exon, ad tractandum unà nobiscum super premissis eorum causis, ad certos diem & locum peremptoriè fecimus evocari. habitoque cum eis super hiis tractatu diligenti & solèmpni die dictâ, de predictorum Decani & Capituli ac prefati Militis & omnium aliorum quorum interest, collaudacione & consensu, concurrentibusque omnibus & singulis que requiruntur de jure super petitis hujusmodi & circa ea in hiis scriptis, ordinamus, providemus & statuimus sub hâc formâ, ut videlicet dilecto filio nunc Rectore dicte Ecclesie de Haccombe cedente vel decedente, persona idonea scientiâ & moribus, ac in Sacerdotio constituta, que non solum Clericorum ponendorum in eâ & amovendi eosdem, cum expedire videbitur, verum etiam Presbyterorum predictorum & Parochianorum quorumcumque ejusdem Ecclesie sollicitudinem & curam gerat debitam animarum, quique per verum Patronum dicte Ecclesie infra tempus indultum à jure, velut Archipresbyter & sub Archipresbyteri vocabulo nobis & successoribus nris Exon Episcopis, instituendus presentetur & instituatur Archipresbyter in eâdem qui eciam mox in Institutione suâ prestat juxta formam Constitutionis bone memorie Dominorum Otonis & Ottoboni, olim Sedis Apostolice Legatorum in Angliâ de Vicariis edite, faciende ibidem residencie corporalis & continue, exceptâ defensione necessariâ seu saltem utilitate communi dicte Ecclesie, juramentum. Alioquin dicti Archipresbyteri Institutio nullius penitus sit momenti.—Item quod idem Archipresbyter quinque Presbyteros suos Socios idoneos, nobis & Successoribus nris per eundem Patronum, postquam dictus Archipresbyter corporalem possessionem dicte Ecclesie de Haccomb & possessionem corporalem Ecclesie Sci Hugonis de Quedyock infrascripte cum majoribus fructibus ad eas (preter portionem Vicarie in eâdem Ecclesiâ Sci Hugonis per nos vel Successores nostros taxande & ordinande) spectantibus, auctoritate presentis Ordinationis fuerit adeptus ac postmodum eis vel eorum subrogatis sive simul sive separatim cedentibus vel decedentibus, infra mensem ibidem continuum nominandum nostrarum aut Successorum nostrorum hujusmodi auctoritate

literarum, eciã omissâ solempnitate inquisitionis & inductionis in aliis servari solitâ, recipiat & secum habeat, quos cessante causâ rationabili nolumus à quoquam amoveri; per quos autem omnes Divinum Officiũ in predictâ Ecclesiâ de Haccomb devotè & solempniter celebretur, ut videlicet preter Horas Canonicas quas dicent cum notâ quolibet die, Missam convenientem dici & aliam de Beatâ Virgine Dei Genitrice cum notâ, necnon terciã de Mortuis cum pleno officio Mortuorum ordine servari solito, cessante impedimento legitimo cotidie sine notâ preterquam in Anniversariis, psallere & dicere teneantur. In quibus Missis & aliis Oracionum suffragiis, pro salubri statu nostro & Nobilis viri Dni Hugonis de Courtenay comitis Devon dictique Dni Johannis Lercedekne & Domine Cecilie, uxoris sue suorumque liberorum necnon Margarete quondam uxoris Domini Stephani de Haccombe, militis, et Dni Roberti de Pyl, clerici, dum vixerimus et vixerint ac pro animabus ipsorum & nostrâ cum ab hac luce migraverimus & migraverint. Et specialiter pro animabus Dni Stephani predicti Fundatoris, & Dni Thome Lercedekne Militis, Patris Dni Dni Johannis, ac Domine Matilde matris ejusdem, necnon Jordani de Haccomb & Isabelle uxoris sue omniumque Fidelium in Christo quiescentium orare specialiter teneantur, Proviso quòd unus de Presbyteris hujusmodi cotidie pro statu nostro ac predictorum omnium & animabus nostris ac predictorum nominatim expressorum & omnium fidelium defunctorum celebrare cotidie teneatur, quodque vicissim Hebdomadarios se constituent, dictique Presbyteri prefatum Archipresbyterum, cum oporteat, juvent in cure executione animarum, ejusdem judicio & ordinationi in hiis que decentie sunt & honestatis se subjicient cum omni reverentiâ & timore. Statuimus insuper & ordinamus quod idem Archipresbyter ratione sui regiminis animarum & supportacionis sui aliorumque onerum ejusdem Ecclesie, ad instar aliorum Beneficiatorum nostre Diocesis & curam animarum habentium, disponendi de bonis ejusdem Ecclesie plenam & liberam habeat facultatem. Proviso tamen quòd tam ipse quam alii Presbyteri predicti, quos per eum volumus sibi Socios appellari, sub eodem tecto simul se reficiant

et cohabitent in communi. Quoddque volumus idem Archipresbyter de bonis ad dictam Ecclesiam spectantibus, singulis predictis Presbyteris pro stipendiis & vestibus, preter & ultrà victualia statui eorum competencia, que ipse administrabit eisdem II marcas sterlingorum ad festa Sci Michaelis & Pasche per equales porciones singulis annis solvere teneatur. Et sibi caveat tam idem Archipresbyter quàm Presbyteri quodd sic in refectioe & cohabitatione, ita pares sint, si comode poterint, in vestis colore & honestate & ut eorum unicuique provideri valeat primitus de decentia, non queratur quodd preciosum est vel subtile, sed quodd utile valeat inveniri. Sint etiam vestes super tunicam clause, precincte & non scisse, utanturque singuli in executione Divini officii superpelliceis & nigris Almiciis omnibus diebus velut Vicarii in nostra Ecclesia Cathedrali: habeant etiam duos clericali caractere insignitos in arte legendi & cantandi sufficienter instructos X solidos sterlingorum pro vestibus & suis necessariis ultrà victualia annua juxta gradum & condicionem eorum à dicto Archipresbytero percepturos, qui cum eis cantent, & Divinum Ministerium in suis ordinibus exequantur & alias in eorum domesticis negociis sint, juxta jussum dicti Archipresbyteri & mandatum, si & quando expediet, occupati. Si vero contigit dictorum Presbyterorum aliquem coram suo competente iudice in peccato, carnis legitime convictum, ita quod sit quodammodo incorrigibilis, vel extra dictam Ecclesiam celebrare, nisi causa rationabilis suberit à predicto Archipresbytero approbata, à predicta Societate amoveatur protinus summarie & de plano; ac sine iudiciorum strepitu & fugacia, & alius loco amoti idoneus modo premissis subrogetur. Quia vero dicta Ecclesia de Haccomb ad complendum hujusmodi salubre propositum non sufficit, Parochialem ecclesiam Sci Hugonis de Quedyk dicte nostre Diocesis in qua dictus videlicet Dnus Stephanus, dum viveret optinuit Johannesque suus heres jus ad presens obtinet Patronatus, de collaudatione & consensu unanimi Decani & Capituli nostri, predictorum neenon omnium & singulorum aliorum quorum interest, predictique multà instanciam Militis & Heredis cum omnibus juribus &

pertinentiis suis dicte Ecclesie de Haccomb & officio  
 Archipresbyteratûs predicti & Presbyteris in dictâ  
 Ecclesiâ Domino, ut premittitur, servituris, in sub-  
 portacionem dictorum onerum Pontificali auctoritate  
 concedimus, appropriamus & unimus, juribus & dig-  
 nitate nostre Exon Ecclesie & Archidiaconorum loco-  
 rum in omnibus semper salvis. Ita quod auctoritate  
 appropriationis & unionis hujusmodi, cedente vel  
 decedente dilecto filio ad presens ejusdem Ecclesie  
 Rectore, factâque inde nobis & successoribus nostris  
 fide, prefatus Archipresbyter suo dicteque ecclesie  
 de Haccomb ac Presbyterorum predictorum nomine  
 per se vel alium seu alios ejusdem ecclesie Sci Hu-  
 gonis possessionem liberè apprehendere & tenere  
 fructusque ejusdem in usus predictos committere  
 valeat, nostrâ (nec alterius cujuscumque) licentiâ  
 unicè requisitâ, reservatâ tamen de ejusdem Ecclesie  
 fructibus & proventibus Perpetuo Vicario canonicè  
 instituendo in eâ, assignandâ per nos porcione congruâ,  
 ex quâ idem Vicarius comodè sustentari possit et  
 Episcopalia Jura solvere aliaque sibi incumbenta  
 onera supportare, quam Collationi nostre Ordinarie  
 & Successorum nostrorum de consensu dicti Militis  
 specialiter reservamus. Rursûs premissis admittimus  
 pro nobis & Successoribus nostris Exon Episcopis,  
 qd in vacationibus singulis predicti Archipresbyter-  
 atûs, illâ perceptione proventuum ratione Custodie  
 durante vacatione hujusmodi contentari volumus &  
 debemus, quam idem Archipresbyter, si viveret, esset  
 pro porcione suâ discretâ & liberâ percepturus. Ut  
 autem contra dispendium qd parari posset forsitan  
 eidem Ecclesie pro premissâ deliberacione debite  
 consulatur, Statuimus & ordinamus, qd dictus Archi-  
 presbyter in signum recordacionis beneficii hujus,  
 annis singulis mox postquam & earum Ecclesiarum  
 de Haccomb & Sci Hugonis de Quedyk possessionem,  
 auctoritate presentis ordinacionis apprehenderit V  
 marcas sterlingorum in subsidium Fabrice prefate  
 Ecclesie nostre committendas in Scaccario dicte  
 Ecclesie nostre in festis predictis equis porcionibus &  
 I marcam pro obitu dicte Matilde Lercedekne, ma-  
 tris Dni Dni Johis Lercedekne & ejusdem Johannis  
 cum ab hac luce migraverit, secundâ die post festum

Sci Bartholomei Apostoli in eadem Ecclesia Exon tenendo inter Canonicos & alios ministros dicte Ecclesie tunc presentes, per Clericum Scaccarii dividendam dicto die in Scaccario predicto, solvere per juramenti vinculum teneatur. Reservata nobis & successoribus nostris, premissis addendi & ea mutandi, corrigendi & interpretandi ac muniendi potestate. In cujus rei &c. &c.

In concluding this article, we may observe that this foundation deed is modelled on that by which Bishop Stapeldon erected the parish church of Whitchurch into an Archpresbytery, but twenty years before.—See fo. 165, of his register.

Hacombe became the property of the Carew family, through Joanna, wife of Sir Nicholas Carew, Knight, (the lineal ancestor of the present Sir Henry Carew, Bart.) temp. Hen. VI. and daughter of Sir Hugh de Courtenay, Knight, younger brother of Edward, Courtenay, Earl of Devon, by Philippa, Sir Hugh's second wife, daughter and co-heiress of Sir Guarinus Le Ercedekne, (or, Archidiaconus) Knight, son of John Le Ercedekne, by Cecillia his wife, daughter and heiress of Jurdan de Hacombe, son of Sir Stephen de Hacombe, Knight, which John was son and heir of Thomas, son of Sir Odo Le Ercedekne.\*

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\* Arms of the Hacombes, Argent, 3 Bends, Sable; of the Ercedeknes, Argent, 3 Chevrons, Sable.

## ST. GABRIEL'S CHAPEL,

### AT CLYST.

**BISHOP BRONESCOMBE** was the original founder of this establishment, as appears from the following deed.

Universis presentes literas inspecturis Walterus miseracione Divinâ Exon Epus salutem in Dno sempiternam. Eò fiducialius possessiones transitorias adquirimus, quò ampliùs Divinum cultum ex earum fructibus augmentare proposuimus. Proinde vacantem Parochialem Ecclesiam de Ffarendon cum fructibus ejusdem ad collationem nostram spectantem, cujus advocacionem canonicè adquisivimus, ad sustentationem duorum capellanorum per nos & successores nostros canonicè substituendorum in Capellâ Sci Gabrielis, quam infra Septa Curie nostre de Clyst fundavimus ad honorem B. Virginis, dicti Archangeli & omnium Angelorum, necnon & pro salute aie nre, Antecessorum & Successorum ac Benefactorum nostrorum, Divina perpetuò celebrandorum, accedente ad hec dilectorum filiorum Decani & Capituli nre Exon consensu legitimo, attestacione presentis instrumenti, intuitu caritatis, appropriamus, concedimus & canonicè appropriatione annectimus perpetuò possidendam, salvâ competentî vicariâ per nos & Successores nros ydoneis personis cum vacaverit impostere conferendâ. In cujus rei testimonium presenti scripture sigillum nostrum apponi fecimus. Dat. apud Clyst in festo SS. Cosme & Damiani Anno Gre 1276, & Consecraois nre 19.\*

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\* This deed is bound up with some loose MSS. in the beginning of Bronescombe's Register, and may also be seen in fo. 74, of the same Register.

To this foundation the venerable Bishop Stapeldon was a generous benefactor; for he annexed to it a peaceful and commodious asylum for 12 blind, infirm, or superannuated clergymen, where every attention was rendered to their corporal and spiritual necessities. The funds for this charity he supplied principally from the property of his friend and predecessor Bishop Bytton,\* of whom he appears to have been residuary legatee. A moiety of the property possessed by the clergymen of this establishment at the time of their decease, was reserved for the improvement and better condition of the charity. To assist the community, I find that the Dean and Chapter of Exeter engaged themselves, in 1376, to contribute the annual sum of forty-three marks, from the appropriated churches of Westleigh and St. Melan.

A Canon of Exeter Cathedral was generally charged with the administration and superintendence of this benevolent institution.

For further particulars consult Stapeldon's Regist. fo. 163—2. Grandisson's, fo. 4—Appendicis, fo. 50—2. Brantyngham.

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\* Bishop Bytton died 21. September 1307.



## IPELPEN.

**I**N Domesday we read that "Radulfus Felgheres tenet de Rege Iplepen." The Felgheres family, at an early period, conferred their right of presentation to Ipilpen Church on the abbey of St. Peter of Fulgers, in Brittany. The Rector of the church, from holding his situation immediately from this abbey, was called a Prior—perhaps two Religious may have lived with him, as was sometimes the case of cells to alien monasteries.

In Bronescombe's Register, fo. 56. I find, that on 14. Sept. 1274, was admitted "Fratr Lucas ad Prioratum de Ipilpen vacantem per spontaneam resignationem Fratris Thome quondam Prioris ad presentationem Abbatis et Conventus Sci Petri de Ffilger."

Galfridus occurs as Prior and Rector of the church in 1315 and 1334.

In 1350 the church was valued at £6. per annum. King Edward III. presented the rector that year "ratione temporalium Abbathie de Ffeulgers in manu sua occasione guerre inter ipsum et illos de Ffrancia mote existentium." I believe the Crown continued to hold the benefice, until Bishop Lacy procured its appropriation to St. Mary's College, at Otery, in the year 1438.

## OTTERTON PRIORY.

**T**HE manors of Oterton, Otrinton, or Otterington, and of Yarticombe, were granted by William the Conqueror to the great and venerable Benedictine abbey of St. Michael de Periculo Maris. From the Monasticon it appears, that King John founded the priory here for four Monks, and that he granted them the manors of Sidmouth and Budleigh; in consideration of which they were obliged to distribute to the poor, every week, the value of sixteen shillings in bread, for ever.

A Custumale, containing an account of the customs and rents of this priory, was digested by Gaufrid, a Monk of St. Michael's Monastery, A. D. 1260. It is probably the same work which Bp. Tanner entitles "Collectiones, &c. in the possession of John Anstis, Esq. Garter King of Arms," and is now the property of the Rev. Duke Yonge, of Cornwood, in this county.

From this MS. and from the registers of the See of Exeter, I flatter myself that I have recovered an accurate list of all the Priors of Otterton.

- |  | A. D. |
|--|-------|
| 1. <i>Nicholas</i> occurs as Prior in the year                                     | 1212  |
| 2. <i>Henry</i> occurs in several deeds copied in the Custumale of Otterton.       |       |
| 3. <i>Willam de Kernil</i> , who was confirmed as Abbot of Tavistock in            | 1220  |
| 4. <i>William Turbeville</i> occurs as Prior in                                    | 1227  |
| 5. <i>Ralph Underwin</i> .   |       |
| 6. <i>John</i> occurs as Prior in  | 1257  |
| 7. <i>Gaufrid</i> , the compiler of the Custumale, occurs in a deed dated early in | 1260  |

- |  | A. D. |
|--|-------|
| 8. <i>William de Pratellis</i> , admitted 21. Dec.   | 1266. |
| 9. <i>Richard Jordan</i> , confirmed 10. April,  | 1276. |
| 10. <i>Robert Lovel</i> , instituted 27. April,  | 1310. |
| He resigned in August,   | 1316. |
| 11. <i>Robert de Albo</i> succeeded in the following September, and resigned in less than three years. |       |
| 12. <i>Orgerius Bueys</i> , admitted in July   | 1319. |
| and was Prior thirty-three years.  |       |

13. *Thomas Sedile* succeeded him 30. May, 1352.

The following Bull of Pope Innocent VI. to this Prior,\* may be acceptable to our readers:—

“INNOCENTIUS eps servus servorum dei Dilecto filio Thome Sedile Priori Prioratûs de Otriton ordinis Sancti Benedicti Exonien. dioc, salutem & apostolicam benedictionem. Religionis zelus vite ac morum honestas aliaque probitatis et virtutum merita super quibus apud nos fidedigno commendaris testimonio nos inducunt ut te specialis favoris gratiâ prosequamur. Exhibitaiquidem nobis pro parte tuâ petitio continebat, quodd olim Prioratu de Otriton ordinis sancti Benedicti Exonien Dioc quem quondam Ogerius ultimus ipsius Prioratûs Prior dum viveret obtinebat per ipsius Ogerii obitum qui extra Romanam Curiam diem clausit extremum vacante, dilecti filii Abbas et Conventus Monasterii sancti Michaelis in Periculo maris dicti ordinis Abrincensis Dioc veri patroni ejusdem Prioratûs et in possessione pacificâ seu quasi juris presentandi Priorem ad eundem Prioratum existentes, te ad dictum Prioratum sic vacantem et ab eodem Monasterio dependentem, et per Monachos ejusdem Monasterii cujus Monachus expressè professus existis solitum gubernari, Venerabili fratri nostro Johanni Epo Exonien infra tempus legitimum presentarunt, idemque Eps te in Priorem instituit dicti Prioratûs canonicè nisi aplice reservationes obstarent, tuque vigore presentationis et institutionis hujusmodi dictum Prioratum pacificè assecutus illum diù tenuisti

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\* Ex Orig. penes D. Joannem Jones, de Franklyn.

et possedisti prout tenes et possides pacifice et quietè. Cùm autem sicut eadem petitio subjungebat, tu dubites dictum Prioratum tempore presentationis seu institutionis hujusmodi fore dispositione sedis aplice reservatum, teque propterea posse super eo imposterum molestari. Nos igitur volentes te in presbyteratûs ordine constitutum premissorum meritorum tuorum intuitu favore prosequi gratioso, tuis in hâc parte supplicacionibus inclinati, volumus, et aplicâ tibi auctoritate concedimus, qd presentacio et institutio predictæ, et quecumq; inde secuta perinde à dato presentium valeant et plenam obtineant roboris firmitatem, ac si dictus Prioratus tempore presentationis vel institutionis hujusmodi dispositioni sedis predictæ reservatus minime extitisset. Nulli ergo omnino hominum, liceat hanc paginam nostre concessionis et voluntatis infringere, vel ei ausu temerario contraire. Siquis autem hoc attemptare presumpserit, indignationem omnipotentis dei, et beatorum Petri et Pauli Apolorum ejus se noverit incursum. Datum Avinion II. Kal. Februarii Pontificatûs nostri Anno Quinto ”

14. *Thomas Paga*, admitted 19. August, 1393

15. *Robert Magne*, instituted 30. Sept. 1403  
and, I believe, was the last Prior.

This was one of the priories suppressed in 1414. Very soon after, it was annexed, with all its dependencies, to Sion House, the noble foundation of Henry V. On the suppression of that royal monastery, Otterton manor, then valued at £87. 10. 4. per annum, was granted 31. Hen. VIII. to Richard Duke, one of the clerks of the Augmentation Court, and, at the time of the grant, a clerk of the council, in whose posterity it continued till 24. Sept. 1785, when it was purchased by Denys Rolle, Esq. the father of Lord Rolle, the present owner.

In the Taxatio of Edward I. I read as follows:—

PRIOR DE OTRINTA HABET.

	£.	s.	d.
Manerium de Otrintona .....	15	2	8
Manerium de Sydemule .....	10	6	8

	£.	s.	d.
Apud Budleigh de redd molendini.....	5	13	4
Manerium de Hertecombe ... ..	10	16	0
Apud Herderlond de redd .....	2	10	0
Apud Ffursham de redd .....	1	1	0
In Civitate Exon de redd .. ..	1	4	0
Summa	£46	3	4
Decima	£4	13	4

Bishop Grandisson informs us, in his register, that the priory, in 1334, held, in proprios usus, the parish churches of Otterton, Harpford, Sidmouth and Yarticombe, at that time valued at £35. per annum.

Forty-one years after, Bishop Brantyngham reported to King Edward III. that Sidmouth church was valued at the annual sum of ..... £20.

Otterton Church at ..... £20.

Harpford at ..... £5.

Yarticombe at ..... £20.

And that Clyston Church paid yearly to Otterton Priory the sum of 5s.

Since writing the above, I have found that Henry Marshall, Bishop of Exeter, appropriated the above-mentioned churches of Otterton, (with its chapel of Lahédreland, cum capellâ suâ de Lahedreland,) Sidmouth, Yarticombe & Harpford, to St. Michael's Abbey. The deed of appropriation is dated from Crediton, 31. August, 12th year of his Pontificate. See the Appendix (p).

I have seen a grant of King Henry VIII. by which he discharges Sion House and its dependencies for ever of all tenths, fifteenths, and all other quotas and subsidies; also of all manner of tolls and customs.

Agnes, Abbess of Sion House demised Sidmouth manor and rectory to Richard Coswell, gent. for the term of 99 years, under the yearly rent of £51 17. 7. The lease, dated 5. Feb. 30. Hen. VIII. was allowed by the Augmentation court.

The monastery of St. Michael (to which Otterton Priory was subordinate) was built on a rock four hundred feet high, overhanging the sea, between Normandy and Brittany, in the year 708, by Aubert,

Bishop of Avranches. Formerly most of the churches that were built on mountains or eminences, were dedicated to St. Michael; perhaps, because it is asserted, in the most ancient Legends, that he had frequently appeared in such places—"in vertice Gargani montis," and others.

On this great abbey, the priory of St. Michael's Mount, in Cornwall, was also dependent. A religious community existed there in the time of Edward the Confessor; and Leofric, Bishop of Exeter, exempted it from all episcopal jurisdiction. Borlase's account of this priory is very inaccurate.

In 2. Regist. Brantyngham, fo. 7. (ad calcem) is the following account of this priory:—"Frater Johes Volant de monte Sti Michis optinet ecclesiam Sti Hilarii valoris pr. ann V marcarum et dimid. & Idem optinet ecclesia de Moresk val. pr an XX marc & 6s. 6d.—Idem optinet capellam Sti Michis in monte val pr. an XXIV marc 3s. & 9d.—Dictus Prior cum 2 monachis residit in dicto Prioratu."

I have met with the following Priors of St. Michael's Mount, in Cornwall:—

	A. D.
1. <i>Radulphus de Cartaret</i> , admitted 21. Dec.	1260
2. <i>Richard Perer</i> succeeded 11. April,	1275
3. <i>Gaufrid de Gernon</i> , admitted 8. July,	1283
4. <i>Peter de Curá Villá</i> succeeded 12. Sept.	1316
5. <i>John Hardy</i> , instituted 3. Oct.	1349
6. <i>John de Volant</i> succeeded 24. April,	1362
7. <i>Richard Auncell</i> succeeded 7. Dec.	1385
8. <i>William Lambert</i> succeeded 1. Oct.	1410

In 3. Regist. Lacy, fo. 43 an indulgence appears to have been granted, of forty days, to all who should contribute to a new causeway from Marazion to St. Michael's.

## AXMOUTH.

**T**HIS manor, with its parochial church, belonged to the Benedictine abbey of Montburgh, in the diocese of Constance, in Normandy. The priory of Lodres, in Dorsetshire, a cell to Montburgh, was permitted to receive the temporalities of the said church and manor. But I see no reason to believe that any priory existed at Axmouth.

In the registers, I observe that Bishop Stapeldon admitted Roger Harriel, Prior of Lodres, to the custody of the church of Axmouth, in the year 1320—that Bishop Grandisson admitted Simon de Londa to the same office, on the 31. Dec. 1355, and Robert Dormer, on 5. Nov. 1361; that Sampson Trigal, Prior of Lodres, was also admitted, by Bishop Stafford, to the said custody in 1396.

In the Taxatio of King Edward I. the manor of Axemuei is valued at £10. 13s. 4d. the tenth<sup>ts</sup> fixed at £1. 1. 4.

On the suppression of Lodre Priory, in 1414, the manor and church of Axmouth were granted by Henry V. to his monastery of Sion House. I have seen a presentation by the Abbess and Convent of Sion to the church of Axmouth, in the year 1428.

A chapel, dedicated to St. Leonard, in Axmouth parish, is mentioned in l. Regist. Stafford, fo. 238.

## CARSWELL.

**T**HIS priory, situate in the Deanery of Plymptre, was a small cell for two Monks, as Leland informs us, and was dependent on the Cluniac Monastery of Montacute, in Somersetshire.

In the Taxatio, so often quoted, I read as follows :—

### PRIOR DE CARESWELE HABET.

	£.	s.	d.
Apud Careswell .....	2	18	0
Apud Monckecoln de redd & pquis. ....	1	0	0
In Paroch de Sampford que tax ad.....	1	4	0
Summa	£5	2	8
Decima	£0	8	3½

In an interesting letter of Bishop Brantyngham's to King Edward III. on the subject of alien priories in the Diocese of Exeter, 2. Regist. fo. 7. ad finem, I observe the prior did not reside at Carswell, Anno 48. Edward III. "Frater Radulfus Shalsham indigena Prior de Careswell optinet ecclesiam de Holcombe Rogus que incumbit Priori & Conventui de Monte Acuto & non residet in eadem cujus fructus & proventus annui se extendunt ad XX Libras."



## CHULMLEIGH.

**I** merely mention this collegiate church, in which, as Bishop Grandisson states, 3 Regist. fo. 158. were six Prebends, in order to remark an apparent confusion in the registers, as to their names, and even their number.

In 2. Regist. Brantyngham, fo. 72, occurs the Prebenda Overheighes, which seems to be the same which Bishop Redman styles in fo. 2. Overhayne.

In 2. Regist. Brantyngham, fo. 15. he mentions the Prebend Puella—in fo. 100. he calls it Puellarum—and Bishop Lacy. 2. Regist. fo. 248. calls it Le Mayden, alias Denys.

The Prebend of Dene, occurs in 2. Regist. Lacy, fo. 209

The Prebend Bucklond occurs fo. 46 and 70. of Veysey's.

The Prebend Penelles occurs vol. 2. fo. 75. of Brantyngham's; and yet in fo. 18. of Bishop Bothe's, Penelles and Northerhayne are considered as the same Prebend.

The fact appears to be, that the six prebends were originally—1. Overheighes, or Overhayne. 2. Puella, or Puellarum, or Mayden. 3. Denys, or Dene. 4. Bucklond. 5. Penelles. 6. Netherhayne. and that, subsequently to Grandisson's time, they were reduced to four, by uniting Denys or Dene to Puella, or Puellarum; or Mayden and Penelles to Netherhayne.

N. B. All these Prebends were in the gift of the Courtenay family.

*In closing this work, I beg leave to inform the reader, that I have purposely abstained from noticing the Cathedral of Exeter and the Collegiate Chapel of the Castle in this City ; intending to speak of them, at large, in my History of Exeter.*



## APPENDIX.

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(a) Referred to from p. 1.

### *The Legend of Saint Olave.*

**T**HE following Legend was copied by me from the MS. Ordinale compiled by Bishop Grandisson, penes Decanum & Capitulum Ecclesie Cathedr. Exon.

#### LECTIO QUARTA--XXIX JULII.

Beatus OLAVUS Rex Norwegie fidem evangelicam ex Angliâ compertam devotè suscepit & in urbe Rothomagi baptizatus est. Nec propriâ tamen salute contentus, novo rerum ordine, Rex vice fungens Apostoli verbum Dei suo populo predicavit. Qui etiam Leges tam Divinas quam humanas, mirâ discretionem plenas, scripsit & promulgavit. Set in viâ Dei multos perpeccus adversarios, quibus resistere non potuit, secessit ad Ruciam ad Jerzelaum Regem, cum quo non parvo tempore moratus et sue Religionis celebre monumentum incolis derelinquens, per Sueciam rediit, ac ibidem ab inimicis Fidei peremptus est, Anno Dni millesimo vicesimo octavo. Viderat quippè sanctus Rex antea in sompnis scalam ad celos erectam & precedente Passionis sue nocte apparuerat ei Dnus Ihs dicens—"Accede ad me, dilecte mi, ut coronam suscipias glorie & honoris:" quâ visione non modicûm confortatus est et animatus ad Martyrium perferendum. Fertur de eo, quòd, dum quâdam Dominicâ die virgulam cultello, immemor festi, dolaret, & à quodam super hoc commotus fuisset, facti penitens, dolaturas virge super propriam manum congestas combussit, set tamen manus ejus illesa permansit.

M.

(b) Referred to from p. 2.

***St. Anselm's Letter to Osbern, Bishop of Exeter.***

The following letter is copied from 4. Alford's *Annales Ecclesiæ Anglicanæ*, fo. 168. edit. Liege 1663.

ANSELMUS Dei dispositione vocatus Archiepiscopus Cantuariensis, Reverendo Epo Exoniensi, Osberne salutem. Episcopalem decet dignitatem, quoscumque potest ad servitutem Dei invitare, et volentes Deo servire quibus valet consulendo et adjuvando confortare. Hâc igitur fiduciâ Reverentiam vestram obsecro, ut Monachos de Monasterio, quod vulgò dicitur de Bataillâ, in vestrâ civitate morantes, propter Deum et propter nostrum, si quid ad hoc valere potest, amorem, Paternâ et Episcopali pietate adjuvetis et ab omnibus adversariis pro possibilitate vestrâ sicut vos decet, defendatis; quatenus si quid boni Deus per illos operari dignabitur, cum illis à Deo retributionem recipiatis. Audivi enim quòd quidam de Clericis vestris fecerunt illis quædam quæ fieri non oportuit. Unde precor ut prædictis Monachis eam jubeatis fieri satisfactionem, ut deinceps justè conqueri non possint de Clericorum vestrorum indiscretione. Eosdem quoque Clericos fraternâ charitate et paternâ fiduciâ precando moneo, quatenus ita se habeant erga eosdem fratres, ut ipsâ caritatis exhibitione et benignâ familiaritate probent sibi placere profectum illorum et studium ad serviendum Deo. Quòd autem prohibitis eos pulsare Signa sua secundum Ordinem suum, nusquàm rectè fieri solet; nisi ubi Monachi in Majori Ecclesiâ Civitatis deservient. Ubi enim Canonici in Majore Ecclesiâ Civitatis ad serviendum Deo sunt constituti, unusquisque ordo Canonicorum scilicet et Monachorum, secundum opportunitatem servitii sibi injecti, tardant vel festinant Signa pulsare absque omni rectâ prohibitione. Quapropter ratione ipsâ commoniti, eos Signa sua secundum Ordinem suum pulsare deinceps prohibere ne velitis. Hoc quoque petunt ipsi Fratres, et ego cum illis et pro illis, ut si quando in aliquo concursu Populi auxilium postulare volunt ad Ecclesie suæ constructionem, nullatenus prohibeantur.—VALETE.

Referred to from p. 10.

***Monument of the Venerable Helluin.***

In the middle of the Chapter House of Bec Abbey, lies buried the founder Helluin, *Herlouin*, or Hellouin. The ancient monument, which had been erected over his grave in the eleventh century, was removed in 1714, and a new one of white marble, supported by six pillars of oriental jasper, was placed in its stead. On this monument was engraven the following epitaph:—

Hic jacet  
 Primus hujusce Monasterii Conditor et Abbas,  
 Venerabilis Helluinus,  
 Primariæ inter Normannos nobilitatis,  
 Patre Angoto, Matre Heloïde, in pago Brionensi natus;  
 Inter armorum strepitus summâ cum laude,  
 Inter aulæ illecebras summâ cum integritate, versatus,  
 Abjecto militiæ secularis paludamento,  
 Christo deinceps militaturus,  
 Ab Herberto Lexovien. Episcopo habitu monastico  
 induitur.  
 Et ut Christum haberet hæreditatem,  
 Bonorum suorum Christum instituit hæredem;  
 Quos agros, quondam possederat dives,  
 Hos coluit pauper, coluit et jejunos,  
 Ut cibus fieret Pauperum,  
 Et laborantis sudor et fames jejunantis.  
 Labores diurnos, nocturnis levabat precibus.  
 Ut cum virtutum studiis studia litterarum conjun-  
 geret,  
 Litteras quadragenarius discere non erubuit:  
 Et Beccensi monasterio Litterarum aperuit Gim-  
 nasium,  
 In quo Paternæ Pietatis alumnos et hæredes,  
 Ecclesiarum Præsules candidatos,  
 Lanfrancum, Anselmum,

**Plurimosque alios sui similes discipulos**  
**Ad omne virtutis officium suis informabat exemplis**  
**Abbas Virtuti simillimus,**  
**Qui plenus operibus bonis**  
**Mortem obiit VII Kal. Sept. A. D. MLXXIII, vitæ**  
**LXXXIII.**

**Patri de se optimè merito**  
**Æternum hoc Pietatis monumentum PP.**  
**Monachi Beccenses, Congregationis S. Mauri,**  
**Anno Dni MDCCXIV.**

(d) Referred to from pp. 11. 12.

***Resignation by the Prior of Cowic, of his  
Priory, in 1457.***

Ex 3. Regist. Lacy, fo. 380.

25. die mensis Marcii A. D. 1452 incipiente, et anno translationis 32. apud Clyst, Dnus Epus recepit hanc resignacionem sive dimissionem Prioratûs de Cowyk, Exon Dioc, per Robertum de Rotomago, nuper et immediatè Priorem ejusdem, coram Thomâ Clyst clerico Wynton Dioc, auctoritate Apostolicâ Notario Publico, et in scriptis, sub signo, nomine et subscriptione dicti Notarii, redactam, cujus tenor resignacionis seu dimissionis predictæ hîc sequitur et est talis.

In Dei nomine, Amen. Per presens publicum instrumentum cunctis appareat evidenter, quòd anno ab Incarnatione Dni 1451, Indictione quintâ decimâ, Pontificatûs Sacratissimi in Xto Patris et Dni nri Dni Nicholai Divinâ Providentiâ Pape Quinti anno 5, mensis Novembris die 22, in camerâ Reverendi Magistri Willelmi Westbury, Prepositi Collegii Regalis Beate Marie de Eton juxta Wyndesorum, infra dictum Collegium, in mei Notarii Publici et Testium infrascriptorum presenciâ constitutis personaliter, vir honestus Robertus de Rotomago, seu quocumque alio modo nominatus, nuper nuncupatus Prior de Cowyk in Com Devon Exon Dioc, quasdam renunciacionem, resignacionem seu dimissionem realiter fecit, et in scriptis redactas legit, sub hâc formâ.

“ In Dei nomine, Amen, Coram vobis authenticâ personâ et testibus hîc presentibus, Ego Robertus de Rotomago, seu quocumque alio modo nominatus, Prior Prioratûs de Cowyk, in Com Devon, Exon Dioc notoriè situati, ex certis causis licitis me in hâc parte moventibus, ab onere et occupatione dicti Prioratûs de Cowyk, penitè exui et exonerari cupiens et



affectans, non vi, metu, dolo seu fraude, nec aliquo alio modo iniquo seu medio, inductus ad hoc ; sed ex meâ propriâ et liberâ voluntate, maturâ deliberatione probabitâ, dictum Prioratum de Cowyk cum principali manso ejusdem, maneriis, dominiciis, terris, teneamentis, redditibus, pertinentiis, boscis, molendinis, revencionibus, pencionibus, porcionibus, fructibus, decimis et emolumentis quibuscumque, advocacionibus Ecclesiarum, Rectoriarum, Vicariorum, Capellarum et Cantiarum, instrumentis, cartis et munimentis ad dictum Prioratum quocumque modo spectantibus, et aliis quibuscumque suis pertinentiis universis, in manus cujuscumque hujusmodi resignacionem admittendi potestatem habentis sive habituri, liberè spontè, purè, simpliciter et absolutè resigno, omnique jure, statu, titulo et interesse meis posthabitis in eisdem Prioratu, Manso Principali et ceteris premissis, renuncio et ab eisdem recedo totaliter."

In hiis scriptis acta sunt hec omnia et singula prout superiùs scribuntur et recitantur sub anno Dni, Indictione, Pontificatu, Mense, Die et Loco predictis, presentibus tunc ibidem discretis et honestis viris Dno Johe Ffrenshe, presbytero, Johe Giphthorpe et Thomâ Hylle, literatis Exon et Lincoln Dioc. Et ego Thomas Clyff, clericus, Wynton Dioc, auctoritate Aplâ, Notarius Publicus, premissis renunciacioni, resignacioni et dimissioni Dni, sic ut prefertur, in subscripto, sub Anno Dni, Indictione, Pontificatu, Mense, Die et Loco predictis, agebantur et fiebant unâ cum prenominationis testibus, presens preterea interfui, eaque sic fieri vidi et audiui, per alium scribi feci, meque hîc subscripsi Publicum et in hac publicâ formâ redegei, meisque nomine et signo solitis et consuetis signavi rogatus et requisitus in fidem et testimonium omnium premissorum.

Post cujus quidem renunciacionis, resignacionis sive dimissionis receptionem, idem Dominus (Edmundus Lacy) fuit ex parte Excellentissimi in Xto Principis et Dni Dni Henrici Dei grâ Regis Anglie, Francie illustris et Dni Hybernie, ad instantiam multipliciter rogatus et requisitus, quatenus eandem resignacionem admittere dignaretur : idem Dnus verò dictis supplicationibus et requisicionibus ac mandatis

dicti Dni Regis in premissis inclinare, et ut tenetur obedire volens, prefatam resignacionem auctoritate suâ Diocesanâ in formâ juris pro tribunali sedens admisit et ipsum Priorem resignantem à curâ et regimine ipsius Prioratus penitus exoneravit, tunc ibidem presentibus Venerabili Viro Magistro Rogero Keys, Archidiacono Archidiaconatus Barum in Ecclesiâ Cathedrali Exon et Canonico, ac discretis viris Willo Okedon et Willo Water alias Burdeaux, literatis Exon, necnon Conventr et Lich ac Wynton Dioc, testibus ad premissa vocatis specialiter et rogatis, ac me Willo Elyot, clerico dicti Exon Dioc, auctoritate Aplâ, Notario publico, Actorum hujusmodi dicti Dni Exon Epi, Scribâ &c.

(e) Referred to from p. 17.

*Answer of the Convent of Polslo to Queen  
Philippa, from 1. Regist. Grandisson,  
fo. 66.*

A lour treshonorable et tres puissaunte et redoutee Dame, ma dame, dame Phelipe par la grace de Diu, Royne Dengletre &c. ses poveres et humbles aunceles nounaynes de Polslow quant quelas poout de reverences et honours emprautes votre douce pitee que mercy eyt de notre graund poverttee. Notre tresnoble dame nos avoms recu vos lettres par les queles nos entendoms que votre voluntee sereit que nos reuixssoms Johanete de Tourbeuyle entre nos come Soer de la meson a prenre le certem d'une nonnayn en seculer habite: de quel chose, tresdeboneire Dame par la mour de Dieu et sa Mere prengez pitee de nos si vos plect: gar certeynement unques nule Royne tiel chose ne demaunda de notre petite meson avant, hors Convent que par aventure faire le soleient des autres mesons qui furent foundees par les Rois et tient en chief deaux. Mes ceo ne fasons nos mie dount il nos poise: et sil plesoit a votre deboneire hauteste de savoir de notre simple estat, nos sames si poveres, Diu le siet, et tot le pois que quant que nos avoms, ne suffit mie a petite sustenance de nos qui devons faire de jour et de nuit le Service Dieu.—Si par eyde des amys noun ne ny puissoms estre chargees de Seculiers sauns abregier le noubre de nos Religieuses en enieunsement de servise Dieu et par inde..... perpetuel de notre powere Mesoun. Et nos esperons fermement en Dieu et en votre grand bounte que ia a mal ne prenez, si tiel chose ne se face en peril de nos almes; gar de entreir et accomencier tiel novele charge en si petit liu qui dureyt et seroit trop graunt peril de Votre alme, ma Dame vers Dieu. Deynt Diu vos defend par sa grace

Notre tresbenette Dame, Dieu vos doynt bone vie et longe et plesaunte de ly et aide et alegement de nos et autres poveres servantes de Dieu en terre et mont aureyoms grand joie faire vos comaundemens si Dieu nos otreast le poer.

***Bishop Grandisson's letter to the Queen, on the same subject.***

See 1. Regist. fo. 69.

Cher Sire, Nos avons reçu et entendu vos lettres pour Johanete de Tourbeuyle votre Cosine & Diu siet, que la volunte ne nous faut mye a faire vos requestes. Mes purceo, Sire, que les povers Dames de Polslogh ne tienent rien si de espiritantee noun, et nos lour sumes en lui de Patron, mont nos tournereit a grande reproeste, si en notre nouveaute assen-, tissoms a charcheir si povere Meson de sustenaunce de nule femme qui seit, especianment en seculer habite et plus faet a chargeir. Si tiel chose fiust, ore de novel acomence, si seriet toz jours mes chalaunge en perpetuel servage de celes qui uncore sunt fraunches quant a ceo, qui sereit a outrage grand peril a tous ceaux qi le feissent ou procurassent. Et pourceo, cher Sire, si vos plest, nos eiez excuse de ceste chose et ostez vos meymes de cele pensee et pour lamour de vos a qui nos sumes mont avaunt tenuz. Et pour mounstrer que nos ne nos feyngoms mye, ordinez, sil vos plest, par aillours de son estat et nos ymettrons mont voluntiers purement de notre bien resonablement; gar ceo poums nos sauvement faire votre volunte. Chere Sire, nos voillez maundeir favorablement; gar prest serons nos touz jours de faire a notre poer.

(f) Referred to from p. 18.

***The Grant of Polslo to Sir George Carewe  
and Mary his wife.\****

HENRICUS Octavus Dei Gratiâ Anglie et Francie Rex, Fidei\* Defensor, Dnus Hibernie et in terris supremum caput Anglicane Ecclesie, oibz ad quos presentes litere pvenerint Salutem, Sciatis quòd nos in consideratione boni, veri et fidelis servitii qd dilectus servus noster Georgius Carewe, Miles, ante hec tempora nobis fecit, ac pro certis aliis causis nos ad presens specialiter moventibus, de gratiâ nostrâ speciali ac ex certâ scientiâ et mero motu nostris, dedimus, concessimus ac per presentes damus et concedimus eidem Georgio Carewe et Marie uxori ejus, totam Domum et Scitum nuper Monasterii sive Prioratûs de Polsloo in Com. nostro Devon, auctoritate Parlamenti suppressi et dissoluti, Ac omnia messuagia, domos, edificia, horrea, columbaria, stagna, vivaria, ortos, pomaria, gardina, terram et solum nostra tam infrâ quàm extrâ ac juxta et prope scitum, septum, ambitum, circuitum et precinctum dicti nuper Monasterii sive Prioratûs de Polsloo existentia, Ac totum Manerium nostrum de Polsloo cum suis juribus, membris et pertinentiis in dicto Com. nostro Devon, dicto nuper Monasterio sive Prioratui dudum pertinentibus sive spectantibus, ac parcella possessionum inde existentes, Ac oia maneria, grangia, molendina, messuagia, terras, tenementa, prata, pascua, pasturas, redditus, reversiones, servicia, annuitates, sursumredemptiones quibuscumque dimissionibus et concessionibus reservatas, aquas, piscaria, liberas warennas, feoda militum, feodi firmas, eschæta, relevia, heriota ac alia proficua, jura, com-

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\* E Collect. MSS. Joannis Jones, de Franklyn, Arm.

moditates, possessiones et hereditamenta nostra quicumque cum pertinentiis, situata jacentia vel existentia in Parochiâ de Hevytre in dicto Com. nostro Devon, dicto nuper Monasterio sive Prioratui pertinentia sive spectantia ac parcelas possessionum ejusdem nuper Monasterii sive Prioratûs existentes, aded plenè et integrè, ac in tam amplis modo et formâ, prout ultima Priorissa et nuper Conventus dicti nuper Monasterii sive Prioratûs, aut aliqua vel alicue Predecessorum suorum in jure nuper Monasterii sive Prioratûs illius, aliquo tempore ante dissolutionem ejusdem nuper Monasterii sive Prioratûs predicti, maneria, messuagia, terras, tenementa et cetera premissa superiùs specificata, vel aliquam inde parcelam, habuerunt, tenuerunt vel gavisi fuerunt, habuit, tenuit vel gavisus fuit, seu habere tenere vel gaudere debuerunt vel debuit, et aded plenè et integrè, ac in tam amplis modo et formâ prout ea oia et singula ad manus nostras, ratione vel pretextu Dissolucionis dicti nuper Monasterii sive Prioratûs illius, aut ratione vel pretextu alicujus Actûs Parliamenti vel alio quocumque modo devenerunt seu devenire debuerunt, ac in manibus nostris jam existunt seu existere debent vel deberent. Exceptis tamen semper et nobis et heredibus et successoribus nostris reservatis grossis arboribus et subboscis ac advocacionibus Ecclesiarum, ac oibz talibus et hujusmodi edificiis infra scitum dicti nuper Monasterii, que nos ibidem prosterni mandavimus, Habendum, tenendum et gaudendum dictum Scitum dicti nuper Monasterii sive Prioratûs, ac predictum Manerium, terram, tenementum et cetera oia et singula premissa superiùs expressa et specificata cum suis pertinentiis universis, exceptis priùs exceptis, prefato Georgio Carewe, uxori ejus ac eorum assignatis ad terminum vite òròrum Georgii et Marie ac eorum utriusque diucius viventis. Reddendo inde annuatim £XXIX. IIIs. Id. ad festa Annunciationis Beate Marie Virginis et Sci Michaelis Archangeli per equales porciones annuatim solvendas. Et ulteriùs volumus et per presentes concedimus, quòd nos, heredes et successores nostri de tempore in tempus acquietabimus, exonerabimus, et annuatim defendemus dictos Georgium Carewe et

Mariam ad eorum Assignatos, versus quascumque alias personas, de omnibus et omnimodis feodis, annuitatibus, serviciis quibuscumque de predictis maneriis, terris, tenementis et ceteris premissis exeuntibus seu solvendis, vel superindè oneratis, preterquam de redditu superiùs per presentes reservato, et preterquam versus Georgium Maneryng, Ballivum Monasterii predicti, pro feodo sive annuali redditu LIII. s. IVd. pro executione officii Ballivatùs predicti. Proviso semper quòd predicti Georgius et Maria omnes domos et edificia premissorum de tempore in tempus reparabunt et sustentabunt et manutenebunt durante termino predicto, ad quas quidem reparaciones volumus ac per presentes concedimus quòd idem Georgius et Marie de tempore in tempus habebunt et percipient sufficientem maremiem super premissis per Supervisorem supremum aut alium Officiarium nostrorum pro tempore existentium, assignandam at deliberandam. Volumus eciam, per presentes concedimus quòd benè licebit prefatis Georgio Carewe et Marie ac eorum Assignatis habere et percipere de et super premissis, per supervisionem et assignationem Supervisoris et aliorum Officiarium nostrorum Premissorum pro tempore existentium, competentem et sufficientem hedgebote, firebote, ploughbote et cartebote super premissis et non alibi, annuatim exercendum et occupandum durante termino predicto. Et ulteriùs de uberiori gratià nostra damus et concedimus per presentes prefatis Georgio Carewe et Marie omnimod exitus, redditus, reversiones et proficua predicti Manerii, terre, tenementi et ceterorum omnium et singulorum premissorum superiùs expressorum et specificatorum cum pertinentiis, à festo Sei Michaelis Archangeli ultimo preterito quousque provenientibus sive crescentibus. Habendum eisdem Georgio et Marie et eorum assignatis ex dono nostro, absque compoto seu aliquo alio proinde nobis, heredibus vel successoribus nostris quoquo modo reddendo, solvendo vel faciendo, eò quòd expressa mentio de vero valore annuo aut de certitudine premissorum, sive eorum alicujus, aut de aliis donis sive concessionibus per nos prefatis Georgio Carewe et Marie uxori ejus ante hec tempora factis in presen-

tibus minimè factis existit, aliquo Statuto, aut ordinatione seu provisione aut aliquà alià re, causà vel materià quacumque in aliquo non obstante. In cujus rei testimonium has literas nostras fieri fecimus Patentes. Teste Ricardo\* Ryche, Milite, apud Westmonasterium I. die Februarii, Anno regni nri XXXII.

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\* This gentleman was Speaker of the House of Commons and Chancellor of the Augmentation Court :—See Lord's Journals.



(g) Referred to from p. 28.

***Form of the Oath taken by the Precentor and Vicars of Crediton;—and Inventory of the church ornaments there.***

Ego N. Precentor Ecclesie Collegiate Sancte Crucis Crediton, debitas, antiquas et approbatas consuetudines ac statuta illius Ecclesie, quantum ad me attinet, fideliter observabo, et ero fidelis confratribus Canonicis meis universis et singulis, preteritis, presentibus et futuris: secreta Capituli ad dampnum ipsius vel alicujus de Capitulo non revelabo. Sic me Deus adjuvet et hec sancta, &c. Regist. Redman, fo. 4.

A Canon's oath was the same, mutatis mutandis.

Form of the Vicar's oath.—Regist. Veysey, fo. 20.

Ego N. juro quod ero obediens Precentori et Capitulo Ecclesie Collegiate de Crediton, et eidem Ecclesie fidelis. Et quod ordinationes et statuta Ecclesie predictae, quatenus me concernunt, pro posse observabo. Et quod secretum Ecclesie in dampnum ejusdem non revelabo. Et quod non discedam à Collegio predicto ad commorandum alibi, priusquam Precentorem et Capitulum de meo discessu per spatium sex mensium premonebo. Sic me Deus adjuvet, &c.

The following memorandum is copied from Regist. Veysey, fo. 30-31.

Here after folowe the how many cots with juelles, upon them to, perteynnyng to the Holy Roode, vowyed by Sir Richard Eryngton, Chaunter; Sir Walter Muggs, Thresaurer; Robert Froste, Chanon; and Mr. John Holwell, Parson of Tettburne; and Sir William Renawdon, Vicar Chorall, the 3d daye of Maie, A.D. 1524.

Imprimis a cote of blewe vellvett with Damaske

flowrs with 3 gylte crosse, 2 brode arowys, 4 silver bokkyll, and 93 ryngs all gylt—146 grotts, one of them slen gylte over—an ymage of silver in a plate—a plate lyk a trowelove.

Item a cote of sylver with the lilly pott in the mydds; and in ony side a byrde with a gyrdle—the cross blewe with 25 great gylte barrs, 42 small barrs, gylte with the bokyll and pendent of the same.

Item a gyrdle, the crosse goolde with bokyll and pendent of the same all gilte.

Item a gyrdle, the crosse blakke with 12 great barrs and 32 small barrs clene sylver with bokyll and pendent.

Item a payre of Beedsall sylver, with 53 Ave Marys and 6 Pater Nosters.

Item a broche of Goolde and on of silver—a silver bokyll without a tong.

Item a gyrdill the crosse redde with 40 barrs of sterrs and gilte, 4 lackyng theyr hedds with bokyll and pendent.

Item a shypp of sylver.—Item a harte of silver,

Item a cote of crymsen velvet algyd about with letters powderde with a blewe gyrdill of 41 barrs all gilte with bokyll and pendent to the same.

Item a gyrdell, the crosse goolde with bokyll and pendent all gilte.

Item a paier of corell bedds with 20 silver stones.

Item a paier of sylver bedds, 55 stones.—Item 3 grotts.

Item a paier of corell bedds with 8 crosses of goolde and a lytle stone of gold and 3 stons of sylver and gylte.

Item a gyrdell, the crosse redde with 24 barrs all gilt, the bokkyll and the pendent.

Item 4 Crucifixis of sylver and gilte.

Item a staffe and scryppe of Seynt James.

Item an owche of goolde—a goolde ryng—a flowre of silver and gylte like a crosse.

Item 3 Agnus Dei, the on with a crucifix ys in him—a thyrd pece of silver with a crosse.

Item a cote of silver, the grownde blewe.

Item a grene gyrdell with 35 bars all gilte with a long bokyll and a pendent.

Item a redde gyrdell, with 24 barrs all gilte bokyll and pendent.

Item a grene gyrdell of 41 barrs all gilte with crook and pendent havyn a long chayn.

Item a pair of corall beeds with a eleven stones gilte.

Item a green gyrdell with 21 bars and gilte, three of them lackyng theyr hedds with bokyll & pendent.



Jocalia ponderata more Aurifabrorum 20 die Maii A. D. 1524, presentibus Dominis Ricardo Eryngton, Precentore; Waltero Mugge, Thesaurario; Roberto Ffrost, Canonico; et Georgio Mason, Decano; et Johanne Holwell, Rectore de Tettburn; sequentia.

Oz. dw

Imprimis a cross of silver gilt, and amelid with oaken leaves, ponderyng ..... 56 0

Item 2 bason parcell gilt with roses in the mydds ..... 39½ 0

Item 2 candelstycks of silver, parcel gilte with Lyons hedds ..... 96 0

Item a foote of a crosse hole gilte with imagery, viz. of Angells in the same ..... 103½ 0

Item a Censer et percell gilte of silver ... 28 0

Item another Censer of silver Libers hedds ..... 22½ 0

Item a shyppe of silver parcell gilte cum sculptura in coopertorio ..... 16½ 0

Item another shyppe of silver parcell gilte with a Lyberd's hedd ..... 16½ 0

Item an other Pyxe of silver, hole gilte with crucifix in the topp ..... 17 0

Item a Monstrate, silver, hole gilte with a berall in the mydds and a crucifix in the topp ..... 37½ 0

Item a double standyng crosse, with a crucifix in the mydds for reliques of silver and hole gilte ..... 10 0

Item 2 Gospelers with plates silver and gilte with Mary and John on the one of themme ..... \*

	OZ.	DWT.
Item 6 chales: on ys all goolde with the Patent of goolde pondering .....	15	10
N. B. This chales valewyd at £22.		
Item a chales of silver hole gilte and a pa- tent to the same .....	28	0
Item an other chales of silver parcell gilte and his patent.....	13	10
Item an other chales of silver, parcel gilte and his patent.....	11½	0
Item an other chales of silver and patent parcel gilte ... ..	15	0
Item an other chales and patent of silver and parcell gilte ... ..	17	0
Item 2 candelstykk of silver and parcell gilte .....	57	0
Item, a rodde of iron platyd over with sylvr .....	*	
Item a rownd Pixe of silver for the sacra- ment hole gelde .....	13½	0

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\* The value of this Article is not stated in the Register.

(h) Referred to from p. 43.

*King John's Charter de Libertatibus Comitatus Devonie.*

Ex Regist. Stapeldon, fo. 152.

Memorandum, quodd Cartæ Originalis Regis Angliæ de Libertatibus Comitatus Devonie manet in custodia Abbatis et Conventus Tavestoch sub hac formâ

“ HENRICUS Dei gratiâ Rex Angliæ, Dominus Hibernie, Dux Normannie, Aquitanie et Comes Andegavie, Archiepiscopis, Episcopis, Abbatibus, Prioribus, Comitibus, Baronibus, Justiciariis, Forestariis, Vicecomitibus, Prepositis, Ministris et omnibus Ballivis et Fidelibus suis, Salutem: INSPEXIMUS cartam quam Dominus Johannes Rex, Pater noster, fecit omnibus hominibus de totâ Devon in hac formâ

JOHANNES, Dei gratiâ, Rex Angliæ, Dominus Hibernie, Dux Normannie et Aquitanie, Comes Andegavie, Archiepiscopis, Episcopis, Abbatibus, Prioribus, Comitibus, Baronibus, Justiciariis, Forestariis, Vicecomitibus, Prepositis, Ministris et omnibus Ballivis et fidelibus suis, Salutem. Sciatis nos deforestasse totam Devoniam cum omnibus que ad Forestam et ad Forestarios pertinent usque ad metas antiquorum regardorum de Dertemorâ et Exemorâ, que regardaverunt tempore Regis Henrici primi: ita quodd tota Devoniam et homines in eâ manentes et heredes eorum sint deafforestati omninò et quieti et soluti de nobis et heredibus nostris imperpetuum de omnibus que ad Forestam et ad Forestarios pertinent, Exceptis duabus Moris pre nominatis, scilicet, Dertemora et Exemora, per predictas metas. Volumus eciam et concedimus quodd predicti homines de Devoniam et heredes eorum habeant consuetudines infra Regarda Morarum illarum, sicut habere consueverant tempore predicti Regis Henrici, faciendo inde consuetudines, quas inde facere tunc consueverant et debuerant, Et quodd liceat eis qui voluerint extra predictas metas essartare, parcos facere, omnimodam venationem capere, canes, arcus-

et sagittas et alia omnimoda arma habere et saltatoria facere, nisi in Divisis predictarum Morarum, ubi non poterunt saltatoria vel haias facere. Et si oanes eorum excurrerint in Forestam nostram, volumus quòd ipsi inde deducantur sicut et alii Barones et Milites inde deducuntur, qui sunt deafforestati et quòd marchiant alibi foreste nostre. Et volumus quòd unus turnus Vicecomitis tantum fiat per annum in Comitatu Devonie, et ille turnus fiat post festum Sancti Michaelis ad inquirendum Placita Corone et alia que ad Coronam pertinent cum occasionibus aliarum faciendis, et quòd plures turnos non faciat, nisi pro placitis Corone cum eveniunt attachiandis cum Coronatoribus et pro pace assecuranda: ita quòd in itinere suo nichil capiat ad opus suum. De personabus vero que capte fuerint in Comitatu Devonie, de quibus Vicecomes habeat potestatem eos replegiandi et quorum plegiagium Comitatus Devonie voluerit super se capere: volumus et concedimus quòd per consilium eorum replegientur; ita quòd per odium vel occasionem Vicecomitis ulterius in Prisona non detineantur. Et si Vicecomes injustè gravaverit predictos homines Devonie et inde convictus fuerit, jacet in misericordiam nostram et nos de eo misericordiam capiemus et alium Vicecomitem eis substituemus, qui eis benè et legaliter tractabit

TESTE, Domino Hereberto, Sarum Episcopo  
 Galfrido filio Petri, Comite Essex  
 Baldewino, Comite Albemarle  
 Willelmo, Comite de Fferariis  
 Henrico, Comite Hereford  
 Willelmo de Braos  
 Hugone de Nevill  
 Willelmo Briwer  
 Simone de Pateshull.

Datum per manum Domini S. Cicestr. electi, apud Wynton XVIII. die Maii, Anno Regni nostri V.

NOS autem concessionem predictas ratas habentes et gratas, eas pro nobis et heredibus nostris concedimus et confirmavimus, sicut Carta predicti Domini Johannis Regis Patris nostri plenius et liberius testatur: hiis Testibus,

Venerabili Patre Waltero Ebor. Archiepiscopo,  
Anglie Primate

Petro de Sabaud

Magistro Willo de Kilkenny, Archdiac Cove

Bertramo de Croll

Ricardo de Grei

Johanne de Gre

Roberto de Bustegs

Gileberto de Segue

Roberto Walerand

Barthol. Peech

Roberto de Noreis

Willo de Cheemy

Johe de Gerres et aliis.— Datum per manum nos-  
tram apud Wyndeleshoure XXV Aprilis, anno Regni  
nostri XXXVII.”

Et nos, WALTERUS, permissione Divina Exon-  
Episcopus, existentes London. et videntes dictam  
originalem Cartam in manibus cujusdam Thome Neu-  
legyn, clerici dicti Abbatis, (cum ipsa Originali per  
fratrem Robertum Champeaux tunc Abbatem Tavis-  
tochie, London. ut dicebat, missi) Transcriptum seu  
Copiam ipsius ut superscribitur, nobis fieri fecimus  
VIII. die Octobris, Anno Domini MCCCXX et regni  
Regis Edwardi, filii Regis Edwardi, XIV. et in hoc  
nostro Registro rescribi ad plenioram memoriam  
futurorum,

Referable to p. 41.

***Carta Abbatiae Tavistock, temp. Hen. II.***

E Libro Nigro Scaccarii, à Hearne, vol. 1. p. 117.  
edit. Lond. 1771.

Venerabili Domino suo Henrico, Anglorum Regi  
nobilissimo, WALTERUS, Dei gratiâ, Tavistock-  
iensis Ecclesiæ Minister humilis, fideles orationes  
in Christo

Noverit Celsitudo vestra de tenurâ Militum nostro-  
rum, quantum inde sollicitus inquirendo scire potuit  
parvitas nostra, quod eo anno et die, quo inelytus  
Rex H. avus vester, vixit et viam universæ carnis in-  
gressus est, tenuerunt de pauperculâ domo nostrâ :

Ricardus de Alneto feodum. IIII. Militum

Rogerus Cornutus feodum. II. Militum.

Radulfus de Oskerevill feodum. II. Militum.

Willelmus de tribus Minetis feodum. III. Militum.

Reginaldus de Liddeton feodum. II. Militum.

Galfridus de Lege feodum. I. Militis et dim.

Willelmus Gurdet feodum dimidii Militis.

Hugo de Wichâ feodum. I. Militis.

Robertus Dacus feodum dimidii Militis.

Willelmus de Crievebere feodum dimidii Militis.

Postea vero, in tempore gwerræ, de Dominicis terris  
Ecclesiæ nostræ, quas ei bonæ memoriæ Henricus  
Rex, Avus vester, restituit per justiciam suam et per  
Cartas, quas habemus, et quas audivit aliquando ex-  
cellentia vestra,

Ricardus de Colevill feod. I. Milit.

Galfridus de Lega et Willelmus filius ejus feodum  
dim. milit. ab Ecclesiâ extorserunt.

Dilatet Dominus regnum vestrum, et longo tem-  
pore conservet.



(i) Referred to from p. 45.

***Patent of King Henry VIII. creating the  
Abbot of Tavistock a Lord of Parliament.***

Rot. Pat. 5. Hen. VIII. part. 2. M. 22.

HENRICUS, &c. Sciatis quòd, certis considerationibus nos specialiter moventibus, et ob specialem devotionem, quam ad Beatam Virginem Mariam matrem Christi, Sanctumque Rumonem, in quorum honore Abbacia de Tavistoke, quæ de fundatione Nobilium Progenitorum nostrorum, quondam Regum Angliæ, et nostro Patronatu dedicata existit, gerimus et habemus; hinc est quòd de gratiâ nostrâ speciali, ac ex certâ scientiâ et mero motu nostris, volumus eandem Abbaciam sive Monasterium nostrum gaudere honore, privilegio, et libertatibus Spiritualium Dominorum Parliamenti nostri, Hæredum et Successorum nostrorum; ideo concessimus, et per præsentis concedimus pro Nobis, Hæredibus et Successoribus nostris; quantum in nobis est, dilecto nobis in Christo, *Richardo Banham*, Abbati de Tavistoke prædicto et successoribus suis, ut eorum quilibet qui pro tempore ibidem fuerit Abbas, sit et erit unus de Spiritualibus et Religiosis Dominis Parliamenti nostri, Hæredum et Successorum nostrorum, gaudendo honore, privilegio ac libertatibus ejusdem; Et insuper, de uberiori gratiâ nostrâ, affectando utilitatem dicti nostri Monasterii, considerando ejus distantiam, ita quòd si contingat aliquem Abbatem qui pro tempore fuerit, fore vel esse absentem propter prædicti Monasterii utilitatem in non veniendo ad Parliamentum prædictum Hæredum vel Successorum nostrorum, quam quidem absentiam eidem Abbati pardonamus per præsentis; ita tamen quod tunc solvet pro hujusmodi absentia cujuslibet Parliamenti integri, in nostro Scaccario, suum per Attornatum, V. Marcas Nobis Hæredibus sive Successoribus nostris toties quoties hoc in futurum contigerit. In cujus, &c.—Teste, &c. XXIII, die Januarii, &c.

(k) Referred to from p. 46.

***Bull of Pope Leo X. to Richard Banham,  
Abbot of Tavistock.***

Ex. 2. Regist. Veysey, pp. 45, & seq.

LEO, Episcopus, Servus Servorum Dei, ad perpetuam rei memoriam. Decet Romanum Pontificem in Apostolice Dignitatis speculâ constitutum, Fidelium personarum quarumlibet presertim Religiosarum votis (ex quibus, Monasteriorum et aliorum locorum piorum omnium prospero statui, ipsarumque personarum inibi sub suavi Religionis jugo Altissimo famulanarium, paci et tranquillitati consulit) libenter annuere et ea que propterea per Predecessores suos Romanos Pontifices providâ ordinatione facta fuerint, approbare et innovare, ut eò firmitus illibata persistant, quo frequentiori suo fuerint presidio pro tempore stabilita, aliaque uberius adjicere prout personarum prefatarum exposcit devotio, et id in Domino conspicit salubriter expedire. Dudum siquidem à felicis recordationis CELESTINO Papa Tertio Predecessore nostro, emanarunt litere tenoris subsequentiæ "CELESTINUS Episcopus, &c."\*

Cum autem sicut exhibita nobis nuper pro parte dilectorum filiorum RICARDI moderni Abbatis et Conventus Monasterii Beate Marie Virginis et Sancti Rumoni de Tavistockiâ, Ordinis predicti, Exon. Dioc, in Com. Devon, petitio continebat, ipsi, qui in signum perceptæ Libertatis dictos tres aureos Camere Apostolice annis persolvere singulis consueverunt, Literas prefatas, ne successu temporis impugnationi subjaceant, ipsi ab indebitis molestationibus et perturbationibus sublevati, continuâ pace et tranquillitate frui ac sub Regularis Discipline observantiâ, quietius & liberius Domino in ejus beneplacito famulatum exhiberi possint, approbari et innovari ac prefatum

\* This bull was addressed to the Abbot Herbert, 29. May 1193. As it may be seen in Dugdale's Monasticon, I have not copied it from Ep. Veysey's Register.

Monasterium cum Prioratu de COWYK, Ordinis et Diocesis predictorum ac aliis illius Beneficiis et membris, Ricardumque Abbatem, Conventum et Personas dicti Monasterii nunc et pro tempore existentes cum eorum rebus et bonis mobilibus ab omni jurisdictione, dominio, potestate, correctione, visitatione et superioritate quorumcumque Archiepiscoporum, Episcoporum et aliorum Ordinariorum, Judicum eorumque Officialium et Vicariorum nunc et pro tempore existentiam, ita tamen quod RICARDUS, et pro tempore existens Abbas et Conventus dicti Monasterii, in signum percepte à Romanâ Ecclesiâ libertatis et exemptionis, dimidiam unciam auri, viz. XX. solidos legalis monete Anglie, dictis tribus aureis inclusis seu computatis dicte Camere Apostolice in festo Beatorum Apostolorum Petri et Pauli annis singulis persolvere omnino teneantur, penitus et omnino de novo eximi et totaliter liberari ac sub dicti beati Petri et Apostolice Sedis protectione suscipi, illosque et illa nobis et Successoribus nostris ac Sedi predictis dumtaxat immediatè subjici cupiunt QUARE pro parte Abbatis et Conventus predictorum nobis fuit humiliter supplicatum, quatenus literas predictas approbare et innovare, ac prefatum Monasterium cum Prioratu predicto ac aliis illius beneficiis et membris Ricardumque Abbatem, Conventum et Personas dicti Monasterii nunc et pro tempore existentes, cum eorum rebus et bonis omnibus mobilibus et immobilibus, ab omni jurisdictione, dominio, potestate, correctione, visitatione et superioritate quorumcumque Archiepiscoporum et aliorum Ordinariorum, Judicum eorumque Officialium et Vicariorum nunc et pro tempore existentium: ita tamen quod Richardus et pro tempore existens Abbas et Conventus dicti Monasterii in signum percepte à Romanâ Ecclesiâ libertatis et exemptionis, dimidiam unciam auri legalis XX. solidos legalis monete Anglie, dictis tribus aureis inclusis seu computatis, dicte Camere Apostolice in festo Beatorum Petri et Pauli Apostolorum predictorum annis singulis persolvere omnino teneantur, penitus et omnino de novo eximere et totaliter liberare, ac sub Beati Petri et Sedis hujusmodi protectione suscipere, illosque et illas nostre et Successorum nos-

trorum ac Sedis predictorum Protectioni dumtaxat, immediate subdicere, aliasque in premissis oportune providere et benignitate Apostolicâ diguaremur NOS igitur, qui Monasteriorum et locorum predictorum felicem statum, assiduamque Religiosarum personarum hujusmodi Divinis laudibus dedicatarum in tranquillitate Altissimo famulatum, semotis omnibus obstaculis, observari et augeri, intensis desideriis affectamus, Ricardum Abbatem et Conventum prefatos ipsiusque Conventus singulares personas, à quibusvis excommunicationis, suspensionis et interdicti, aliisque Ecclesiasticis sententiis, censuris et penis à jure vel ab homine quâvis occasione vel causâ latis, si quibus quomodolibet innodati existunt, ad effectum presentium dumtaxat consequendum harum serie absolventes et absolutos fore censentes, hujusmodi supplicationibus inclinati, ex certâ nostrâ scientiâ, literas predictas ac omnia et singula in eis contenta, Auctoritate Apostolicâ tenore presentium approbamus et innovamus ac perpetue firmitatis robur obtinere et inviolabiliter observari debere volumus. Et nihilominus pro cautela prefatum Monasterium cum Prioratu et aliis beneficiis et membris hujusmodi ac Ricardum Abbatem, Conventum et personas dicti Monasterii nunc et pro tempore existentes, cum eorum rebus et bonis omnibus mobilibus et immobilibus ab omni jurisdictione, dominio, potestate, correctione, visitatione et superioritate quorumcumque Archiepiscoporum et aliorum Ordinariorum, Judicum, eorumque Officialium et Vicariorum nunc et pro tempore existentium predictorum, sic tamen quod Ricardus et pro tempore existens Abbas et Conventus prefati Monasterii in signum recepte à Romanâ Ecclesiâ libertatis et exemptionis hujusmodi, dimidiam unciam auri, viz. XX. solidos legalis Monete Angliæ, dictis tribus aureis inclusis seu computatis, dicte Camere Apostolice in festo prefato annis singulis persolvere omnino teneantur, penitus et omnino eximimus et totaliter liberamus ac sub Beati Petri et Sedis hujusmodi protectione suscipimus, illosque et illa nobis et Successoribus nostris necnon Sedi prefatis, dumtaxat immediate subdicimus: ita quod Archiepiscopi, Episcopi Ordinarii, Judices, Vicarii et

Officiales predicti, quocumque nomine nuncupentur, conjunctioni vel divisioni, in Monasterium, Prioratum, Beneficia, Membra, Abbatem, Conventum et Personas, ac Res et Bona hujusmodi tanquam prorsus exemptos et exempta, etiam ratione delicti vel contractus aut rei de qua ageretur, ubicumque committatur delictum, ineatur contractus, aut res ipsa consistat, nullam in eos vel ea jurisdictionem, dominium vel potestatem quomodolibet exercere, aut excommunicationis, suspensionis et interdicti, aliasque sententias, censuras et penas in eos promulgare possint; sed dumtaxat ipse Abbas, Conventus, et Persone de se querelantibus coram Sede prefata aut Legatis vel Subdelegatis ejusdem, de Justitia respondere teneantur; illosque et ista exemptos et exempta, susceptos et suscepta, ut prefertur, fore ac omnes et singulos processus, necnon excommunicationis, suspensionis et interdicti, aliasque sententias, censuras et penas, quos et quas, contra exemptionem, liberationem, subjectionem et presentas literas, in prejudicium exemptorum hujusmodi, haberi, et promulgari, contigerit, nulla, irrita et invalida, nulliusque roboris vel momenti existere. Sicque per quoscumque Judices Ecclesiasticos et Seculares, Ordinarios, Delegatos et Subdelegatos, etiam Sancte Romane Ecclesie Cardinales, etiam Legatos, Nuncios, et Causarum Palatii Apostolici Auditores, in Romanam Curiam et extra eam, ac in quavis instantia, sententiari, decideri, judicari et interpretari debere, sublata eis et eorum cuilibet quavis alia sententiandi, decidendi, judicandi et interpretandi facultate, ac irritum et inane quicquid secus super omnibus et singulis premissis a quoquam, quavis auctoritate, scienter, vel ignoranter contigerit attemptari, decernimus et declaramus, non obstante pie memorie INNOCENTII Pape Quarti etiam Predecessoris nostri circa exemptos que incipit. **VOLENTES** et quibusvis aliis Apostolicis ac bone memorie Ottonis et Ottoni\* olim in Regno Anglie dictae Sedis Legatorum, necnon in Provincialibus et Sinodalibus

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\* The Constitutions of these Two Legates may be seen in Bp. Lyndwood's Provinciale.

Consiliis editis generalibus et specialibus Constitutionibus et ordinationibus, ac Monasterii et Ordinis predictorum, necnon Ecclesiarum Metropolitanarum, Episcopaliarum et aliarum, etiam juramento, confirmatione Apostolica vel quavis firmitate alia roboratis, statutis et consuetudinibus, privilegiis quoque, indultis et Literis Apostolicis, Ordinariis et quibusvis aliis concessis, ac per nos et Sedem predictam, confirmatis et innovatis, quibus etiam, si de illis eorumque totis tenoribus specialis, specifica, expressa, non autem per clausulas generales id importantes, mentio seu alia expressio habenda foret et in eis caveretur expressè quod illis non nisi sub certis inibi expressis modis et formis aut nullatenus derogari possit, illorum tenore, ac si de verbo ad verbum presentibus insererentur, pro expressis habentes, illis aliàs in suo robore permansuris, hac vice dumtaxat specialiter et expressè derogamus ceterisque contrariis quibuscumque. **VOLUMUS** autem quod propter exemptionem et alia predicta, (aliis privilegiis, libertatibus, et immunitatibus Monasterio et illius Abbati pro tempore existenti, Conventui et Ordini prefatis concessis, confirmatis, innovatisque, nihilominus in suis plenis robore et firmitate permaneant, nullum prejudicium generetur, neque in Monasterii et Prioratus predictorum, Parochialium Ecclesiarum Visitationibus et Procuracionibus, tam earum que ratione Visitationis predictæ debentur, quam aliarum antiquarum et solitarum procuracionum, seu aliàs, absque Visitatione debitarum, ullatenus derogetur. **NULLI** ergo omnino hominum liceat hanc paginam nostre Absolutionis, Approbationis, Innovationis, Exemptionis, Liberationis, Susceptionis, Subjectionis, Decreti, Declarationis, Derogationis, et Voluntatis, infringere vel ei ausu temerario contraire. Si quis autem hoc attemptare presumpserit, indignationem Omnipotentis Dei, et Beatorum Petri et Pauli, Apostolorum ejus, se noverit incursurum. **DATUM** Rome apud Sanctum Petrum, Anno Incarnationis Dominice MDXVII. XIV. Calend. Octobris, Pontificatus nostri Anno quinto.

(1) Referred to from p. 48.

***Literæ Patentes Johannis Russell, Militis,  
Domini Russell, pro Monasterio de Tave-  
stoke, in Comitatu Devonie.\****

HENRICUS VIII. &c. Omnibus, &c. Sciatis quòd Nos, ob certas causas et consideraciones nos specialiter moventes, ac in consideracione boni, veri et acceptabilis servicii nobis per prædictum Consiliarium nostrum, Johannem Russell, Militem, Baronem Russell, aliàs dictum Johannem Russell, Militem, Dominum Russell, antè hæc tempora facti et impensi, de graciâ nostrâ speciali, ac ex certâ scientiâ et mero motu nostris, dedimus et concessimus, ac per præsentem, pro nobis, hæredibus et successoribus nostris, damus et concedimus eidem Johanni Russell, Militi, Baroni Russell et Dominae Annæ, Uxori ejus, totam Domum et Scitum nuper Monasterii sive Abbathie et Ecclesiæ Beatæ Mariæ Virginis et Sancti Rumonis de Tavestoke, in comitatu nostro Devonie, modò dissoluti, Et totam Ecclesiam, Campanile et Cimiterium ejusdem nuper Monasterii, Ac omnia messuagia, domos, edificiâ, grangias, orrea, stabula, columbaria, molendina, stagna, vivaria, ortos, pomaria, gardina, curtilagia, terram et solum nostra, tam infra quam extra scitum, septum, ambitum, circuitum et precinctum ejusdem nuper Monasterii existentes, Ac totum Burgum et Villam de Tavestoke in prædicto comitatu Devonie, Et omnia Burgagia nostra in Tavestoke, in Comitatu prædicto, Et Maneria nostra de Hurdewyk, Morwell, et Morwelham, cum suis membris et pertinenciis universis, in Comitatu prædicto, Ac Hundredum nostrum de Hurdewyk aliàs dictum Hundred de Tavestoke, in eodem Comi-

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\* E Collectt. MSS. Joannis Jones, de Franklyn, Arm.

tatu, Ac Bartonas sive Grangias nostras de Hurdwyke, Morwell, et Morwelham, cum suis pertinentiis in Tavestoke; in comitatu prædicto, Ac Dominia sive Maneria nostra de Milton Abbott aliàs dicta Milton Legh, Lamerton, Hele, Brentor, Wykedavernon, Peterstavy, Ottrew aliàs dicta Otterey, Whitchurch, et Newton, cum suis membris et pertinentiis universis, in dicto Comitatu nostro Devonix, dicto nuper Monasterio spectantia sive pertinentia, Ac totam Rectoriam et Vicariam nostram de Tavestoke, cum suis juribus et pertinentiis universis, in dicto Comitatu nostro Devonix, dicto nuper Monasterio spectantem sive pertinentem, Ac totam Rectoriam et Vicariam nostram de Tavestoke, cum suis juribus et pertinentiis universis, in dicto Comitatu nostro Devonix, dicto nuper Monasterio appropriatam, ac spectantem seu pertinentem, unâ cum omnibus decimis, oblationibus, et proficiis quibuscumque eisdem Rectoriæ et Vicariæ; seu eorum alteri pertinentibus sive spectantibus, Ac Advocacionem, Donacionem, liberam Disposicionem, et Jus Patronatus Ecclesiæ Parochialis et Vicariæ de Tavestoke, in dicto Comitatu nostro Devonix, Ac totum Manerium nostrum de Antony, cum suis membris et pertinentiis universis, in Comitatu nostro Cornubiæ, dicto nuper Monasterio spectans sive pertinens, Ac omnia et singula messuagia, terras, tenementa, grangias, bartonas, molendina, toffa, cotagia, gardina, pomaria, prata, pascuas, pasturas, boscos, subboscos, mariscos, redditus, reversiones, servicia, annuitates, redditus, et firmas tenencium et firmariorum nostrorum, communias pasturæ, turbariæ, ac alias communias, piscarias, jumpna, brueras, mineras stanni et plumbi, acerta, vasta, moras, feoda militum, escaetas, relevia, herietta, wardas, maritagia, visus francplegii, curias letæ, nundinas, marcata, tolmeta, catalla, waviata, extrahuras, warennas, villanos et nativos cum eorum sequelis, wreccum maris, ac alia hereditamenta nostra quæcunque cum pertinentiis, in Tavestoke, Hurdwyke, Mylton Abbot aliàs dicta Milton Legh, Lamerton, Hole, Brentor, Wyke Dabernon, Peterstavy, Ottrew aliàs dicta Otterey, Wytchurche, Morwell, Morwelham et Newton, in dicto



Comitatu nostro Devonïæ ac in Antony in dicto Comitatu nostro Cornubiæ, seu alibi ubicumque in eisdem Comitatibus, seu in eorum altero, dictis maneriis, grangiis, bartonis, rectoriæ et vicariæ, terris, tenementis seu eorum alicui vel quoquo modo spectantia vel pertinentia, aut quæ ut membra vel parcellæ eorundem maneriorum, hundredi, bartonarum, grangiarum, rectoriæ et vicariæ, terrarum et tenementorum, seu eorum alicujus habita, eognita, capta, sive reputata existunt aut fuerunt, Ac omnia alia messuagia, terras, tenementa, prata, pascuas, pasturas, boscos, redditus, reversiones, servicia et hereditamenta nostra quæcumque, cum pertinentiis, in Tavestoke prædictâ, dicto nuper Monasterio spectantes sive pertinentes, Adeo plenè et integrè ac in tam amplis modo et formâ prout Johannes, nuper Abbas dicti nuper Monasterii, aut aliquis predecessorum suorum, Abbatum ejusdem nuper Monasterii, in jure nuper Monasterii illius, aliquo tempore ante dissolutionem ejusdem nuper Monasterii, omnia et singula præmissa superius specificata, cum suis pertinentiis, vel aliquam inde parcellam, habuerunt, tenuerunt, vel gavisî fuerunt, habuit, tenuit, vel gavisus fuit, seu habere, tenere, vel gaudere debuerunt aut debuit, et adeo plenè et integrè, ac in tam amplis modo et formâ, prout ea omnia et singula præmissa ad manus nostras, ratione et pretextu dissolutionis dicti nuper Monasterii, vel ratione et pretextu alicujus Actûs Parliamenti, vel aliter, aut aliquo alio modo, devenerunt, seu devenire debuerunt, ac in manibus nostris jam existunt, seu existere debent vel deberent. DAMUS eciam, et pro consideratione prædictâ per presentes concedimus, præfato Johanni Russell, Militi, Baroni Russell, totum Burgum nostrum de Denbury, ac omnia Maneria de Denbury, Plymstok, Woryngton, Cowyke, Barleigh, Olderich, Cavelynche, Whymple, Woodmanston, Cristenstowe, Boryngton et Cornewood, cum suis juribus, membris et pertinentiis universis, in dicto Comitatu nostro Devonïæ, dicto nuper Monasterio spectantia sive pertinentia, Ac Manerium nostrum de Hawkewell, cum suis juribus, membris et pertinentiis universis, in Comitatu nostro Somersetæ, dicto nuper Monasterio spectans sive pertinens, Ac

omnia messuagia, terras, tenementa; grangias, bartonas, molendina, tofta, cotagia, gardina, prata, pascuas, pasturas, boscos, subboscos, mariscos, redditus, reversiones, annuitates, servicia ac redditus, et firmas tenencium et firmariorum nostrorum, communias pasturæ, turbariæ et piscariæ, ac alias communias quascumque, mineras stanni et plumbi, ac parcos, warenas, acerta, vasta, moras; feoda militum; escaetas, relevia, herietta, curias letæ, visus franci plegii, villanos et nativos cum eorum sequelis, nundinas, marcata, tolmeta, catalla, waviata, extramuras, catalla felonum et fugitivorum, utlagatorum, attinetorum, et felonum de se, ac deodanda, wreccum maris, ac omnia alia hæreditamenta nostra quæcumque; cum pertinenciis, in Denbury, Plymstoke, Worington, Cowyke, Exwyke, Barleigh, Olderige, Cavelynche, Whymple, Wodmanston, Cristenstowe, Boryngton, et Cornewode, ac in Parochiâ Thome Bekket, quondam vulgariter nuncupatâ Saynt Thomas Parisshe extra Portam Occidentalem Civitatis Exoniæ, in dicto Comitatu nostro Devonix ac in Hawkewell in dicto Comitatu nostro Somersetæ, quæ dicto nuper Monasterio, sive prædictis maneriis, quoquo modo spectabant sive pertinebant, adeo plenè et integrè ac in tam amplis modo et formâ, prout dictus nuper Abbas dicti nuper Monasterii, aut aliquis predecessorum suorum; Abbatum ejusdem nuper Monasterii, in jure nuper Monasterii illius, aliquo tempore ante dissolutionem ejusdem nuper Monasterii, prædicta maneria, terras, tenementa, et cætera præmissa cum pertinenciis, vel aliquam inde parcelam habuerunt, tenuerunt, vel gavisæ fuerunt, habuit, tenuit, vel gavisus fuit, seu habere, tenere, vel gaudere debuerunt, seu debuit, et adeo plenè et integrè ac in tam amplis modo et formâ, prout ea omnia et singula ad manus nostras, ratione et pretexto dissolutionis dicti nuper Monasterii, aut ratione vel pretexto alicujus Actûs Parliamenti, seu aliter vel alio modo quocumque, devenerunt seu devenire debuerunt ac in manibus nostris jam existunt, seu existere debent. DAMUS etiam, et pro consideratione prædictâ, per præsentem concedimus præfato Johanni Russell, Militi, Baroni Russell, Advocaciones Rec-

toriarum appropriatarum et non appropriatarum, decimas, oblaciones, obvenciones, porciones, pensiones, annuitates, et alia proficua et emolumenta ecclesiarum parochialium de Whitchurch, Lamerton, Milton Abbot aliàs dicta Milton Legh, et Boryngton, ac Capellæ de Olderige, et Rectoriæ Ecclesiæ Parochialis dudum vulgariter nuncupatæ Saynt Thomas Parysshe extra Portam Occidentalem Civitatis Exoniæ, Et Ecclesiarum Parochialium de Cristenstowe, Okehampton, et Sprayton, in dicto Comitatu nostro Devonæ, Et Ecclesiarum Parochialium de Antony, et Peterwyn aliàs dicta Northepetherwyn, in dicto Comitatu nostro Cornubiæ, quæ dicto nuper Monasterio de Tavestoke appropriatæ, unitæ sive annexæ fuerunt, Ac etiam Rectorias appropriatas, Vicarias, decimas, oblaciones, obvenciones, porciones, pensiones et annuitates, et omnia alia proficua et emolumenta Ecclesiarum Parochialium de Old Donkyswell et Aulescombe, et Liberæ Capellæ ibidem, in dicto Comitatu Devonæ, quæ dudum Monasterio de Donkyswell, in dicto Comitatu Devonæ, nuper dissoluto, appropriatæ, unitæ sive annexæ fuerunt, Ac etiam Rectoriam appropriatam et non appropriatam, decimas, oblaciones, obvenciones, porciones, pensiones, annuitates, et omnia alia proficua et emolumenta Ecclesiæ Parochialis de Blakaveton, in dicto Comitatu nostro Devonæ, quæ dudum Monasterio de Plympton in eodem Comitatu, modo dissoluto, appropriata, unita, sive annexa fuit, Necnon Advocaciones, Donaciones, Presentaciones, Liberas Disposiciones et Jura Patronatûs Vicariarum Ecclesiarum Parochialium de Lamerton, Mylton Abbot alias dicta Milton Legh, Whitechurche, Peterstavy, Okehampton, Sprayton, Crystenstowe, Blakeaveton, Boryngton, Woryngton, Olde Donkyswell, Aulescombe, et Capellæ ibidem, et Ecclesiæ Parochialis quondam vulgariter nuncupatæ Saynt Thomas Churchæ extra Portam Occidentalem Civitatis Exoniæ, et Capellæ de Olderidge, et Rectoriæ et Ecclesiarum Parochialium de Virgenstowe, Denbury et Whymples, in dicto Comitatu nostro Devonæ, et Vicariarum Ecclesiarum Parochialium de Antony et Pederwyn, aliàs dicta Northepederwyn, in dicto Comitatu nostro Cornubiæ

INSUPER, ex uberiori gratiâ nostrâ speciali, ac ex certâ scientiâ et mero motu nostris, Damus, et pro Consideracione prædictâ per præsentis, pro nobis Hæredibus et Successoribus nostris, Concedimus præfato Johanni Russell, Militi, Baroni Russell, totam Domum et Scitum nuper Monasterii sive Abbatihæ Beatæ Mariæ Virginis de Dunkyswell, in dicto Comitatu nostro Devonîæ, modo dissoluti, Ac totam Ecclesiam, Campanile et Cimiterium ejusdem nuper Monasterii, Ac omnia Messuagia, domos, edificia, grangias, orrea, stabula, columbaria, stagna, vivaria, ortos, pomaria, gardina, terram et solum nostram, tam infra quam extra scitum, septum, ambitum, circuitum et præcinctum ejusdem nuper Monasterii de Donkyswell existentes, Ac Molendinum nostrum aquaticum, duo Gardina et quatuor Curtilagia, cum pertinenciis in Olde Donkyswell, in dicto Comitatu nostro Devonîæ, quæ dicto nuper Monasterio de Dunkyswell spectabant sive pertinebant, Necnon alia quatuor Clausa Terræ arabilis nostra, vocata Beyn Crofts, Et unum Clausum Terræ arabilis nostrum, vocatum Yeoman Leysse, Et unum aliud Clausum Terræ arabilis, vocatum Debere Crofte, cum pertinentiis, continentia in toto per estimacionem Septemdecim acras in Dunkyswell, prædicto nuper Monasterio de Donkyswell spectantia sive pertinentia, Ac omnia alia Prata nostra vocata Brytport Medowe, Culverheyball, Leyrehouse Mede, Mylbale Mede, Church Haye Mede, Swyne Mede, Synr Mede, et Polemede, continentia in toto per estimacionem viginti quatuor acras, in Olde Donkyswell, prædicto nuper Monasterio de Donkyswell prædictâ simili modo spectantia sive pertinentia, Ac omnes Boscos nostros vocatos Aygewede, Myddelwall, Olde Parke et Rugewood, cum pertinenciis, continentes in toto per estimacionem quadringentas acras bosci, in Olde Donkyswell prædictâ, dicto nuper Monasterio de Donkyswell spectantes sive pertinentes, Necnon totam illam Grangiam sive Bartonam nostram, vocatam Bowreheys, cum pertinenciis, in Olde Donkyswell prædictâ, Ac unum Tenementum, cum pertinenciis, vocatum Bowreheys, Ac omnia alia Clausa Terræ arabilis nostra, vocata Stonyfeld,

Barnyslondé, Crosfeld, Boroughfeld, Parkefelde, Smythefeld, Furfelde, Roodfelde, Penfeld, Newfeld, Leez, Hegher Maresses Leez, Lower Maresses, Le Hedder, Le Mydle Steynt Wood, Le Norther Steyntwood, Trotsdowne, et Shipfeld, cum pertinentiis, continentia per estimacionem CCCLXII acras, Et unum Pratum, vocatum Steyntwode Mede, continens in se per estimacionem III acras prati, Ac omnia alia Terras, Jampna et Brueras nostra, vocata Ruffegreydowne et Westdowne, cum pertinentiis, continentia per estimacionem IIII acras in Olde Dunkyswell prædictâ, dicto nuper Monasterio de Dunkyswell simili modo spectantia sive pertinentia, Necnon totam illam Grangiam et Bartonam nostram de Bywood, cum pertinentiis, in Olde Donkyswell prædictâ, Ac unum Tenementum, cum pertinentiis ac omnia illa Clausa Terræ arabilis nostra, vocata Cade-feld, Le Downe Lands aliàs dictum The Newe Feldys, Fforche Felde, Le Inner Fforche Felde, Barnslond, Churchelond, Stonyfeld, Oxen Leez, et Le Grotten, cum pertinentiis, continentia in toto per estimacionem ducentas viginti et quatuor acras, Et unum Pratum nostrum, vocatum Bywood Mede, cum pertinentiis, continens per estimacionem quatuor acras, Ac omnia Clausa Moræ nostra, cum pertinentiis, vocata Bywood More et Shotte More, continentia in toto per estimacionem XXX acras, in Olde Donkyswell prædictâ, dicto nuper Monasterio de Donkyswell simili modo spectantia sive pertinentiâ, Necnon totam illam Grangiam et Bartonam nostram de Sheldon in Olde Donkyswell et Sheldon, in dicto Comitatu nostro Devonæ, Ac unum Tenementum, ac omnia illa Clausa Terræ arabilis nostra, vocata Hobyd Ryse Ffurshyll, Lytell Beer Hyll, Great Beer Hill, Lez Ferme et Le Gardyne Mede, cum pertinentiis, continentia in toto per estimacionem decem acras et dimidium, Et unam Moram, vocatam Le Northmore, cum pertinentiis, continentem per estimacionem duodecim acras in Olde Dunkyswell et Sheldon prædictis, Ac unam aliam Moram, cum pertinentiis, continentem per estimacionem XII acras in Olde Donkyswell prædictâ, dicto nuper Monasterio de Donkyswell simili modo spectantem et pertinentem,

Ac etiam totam illam Graugiam et Bartonam nostram de Bradhemby, cum pertinenciis, in Brodehemby in dicto Comitatu nostro Devonæ, Ac unum Tenementum et omnia illa Clausa Terræ arabilis nostra, vocata Clampitt, Cresfeld, Oxenheye, Metlande, Le Great Rowden, Les Litle Rowdens, Lodpytt, Whithyll, Oxenlez, cum pertinenciis, continentia in toto per estimacionem ducentas nonaginta et octo acras Terræ, Et omnia illa II Prata nostra, vocata Le Great Mede aliàs dicta The Graunge Mede et Lodpytt Mede, continentia in toto per estimacionem XXV acras, Et unam Mōram nostram, vocatam Le Roughe Mershe, cum pertinenciis, continentem per estimacionem X acras, Et omnes illos Boscōs nostros, vocatos Le Parke aliàs dictos Le Grangewode et Le Grove cum pertinenciis, continentes per estimacionem XIII acras in Brodehemby prædictâ, dicto nuper Monasterio de Donkyswell spectantes et pertinentes, Ac omnia illa III Clausa arabilia nostra, vocata Shapcombe felde, cum pertinenciis, continentia per estimacionem C acras Terræ, Et totum illud Pratum nostrum vocatum Shapcombe Mede, cum pertinenciis, continens per estimacionem viginti et quatuor acras, Et totum illud Boscum nostrum, vocatum Shapcomb Wood, cum pertinenciis, continentem per estimacionem viginti acras jacentem et existentem in Parochiâ de Luppyt in dicto Comitatu nostro Devonæ, dicto nuper Monasterio de Donkyswell simili modo spectantem sive pertinentem, Ac omnia et singula Messuagia, terras, tenementa, prata, pascuas, pasturas, boscōs, subboscōs, redditus, reversiones, communias pasturæ, turbariæ et estoveriorum, servicia, firmas tenencium et firmariorum, jamprum, brueras, vasta, moras, ac omnia alia hæreditamenta, proficua, commoditates, jura et possessiones quæcumque, cum suis pertinenciis, situata, jacentia et existentia in Donkyswell, Olde Donkyswell, Brodehemby, Luppyt et Sheldon, prædictis, quæ dictis Bartonis et Grangiis de Bowreheys, Bywoode, Sheldon et Brodehemby, sive earum alicui spectant vel pertinent, aut pro parcellis earundem Bartonarum et Grangiarum sive earum alicujus habita, cognita, sive reputata sunt vel existunt aut fuerunt, adeo plenè et

integrè, et prout ultimus Abbas dicti nuper Monasterii de Dunkyswell, aut aliquis predecessorum suorum Abbatum ejusdem nuper Monasterii, in jure ejusdem nuper Monasterii, dictum scitum dicti nuper Monasterii de Donkyswell, ac prædictas grangias, terras, tenementa, boscos et cætera præmissa, cum pertinenciis in Donkyswell, Olde Donkyswell, Brodehemby, Luppyt et Sheldon prædictis, vel aliquam inde parcellam habuerunt, tenuerunt vel gavisi fuerunt, habuit, tenuit, vel gavisus fuit, seu habere, tenere vel gaudere debuerunt vel debuit, ac adeò, plenè et integrè, ac in tam amplis modo et formà prout ea omnia et singula ad manus nostras ratione et pretexto cujusquidam cartæ donacionis, concessionis, reddicionis et confirmacionis dicti nuper Abbatis et Conventûs ejusdem nuper Monasterii de Donkyswell nobis factæ, aut ratione alicujus Actûs Parliamenti nuper devenerunt seu devenire debuerunt, ac in manibus nostris jam existunt, seu existere debent seu deberent. INSUPER, ex uberiori gratiâ nostrâ speciali, ac ex certâ scienciâ et mero motu nostris, damus ulteriùs, et pro consideratione prædictâ, concedimus præfato Johanni Russell, Militi, Baroni Russell, totum Manerium nostrum de Blakeaveton cum suis membris et pertinenciis universis, in dicto Comitatu nostro Devonæ, nuper Monasterio sive Abbatie Sancti Salvatoris de Torre in eodem Comitatu nostro Devonæ modò dissoluto spectans sive pertinens, Necnon omnia messuagia, terras, tenementa, prata, pascuas, pasturas, boscos, subboscos, communias pasturæ, aquas, aquarum cursus, stagna, vivaria, molendina, gardina, pomaria, cotagia, tofta, grangias, bartonas, terras dominicales, terras mariscales, mariscos, liberos redditus, reversiones, servicia, parques, chaceas, warennas, acerta, vasta, jampna, et brueras, moras, annuitates, firmas tenendum et firmariorum, feodi firmas, communias pasturæ et liberas piscarias, liberas faldas, mineras stanni et plumbi, redditus super quibuscumque dimissionibus reservatos, feoda militum, curiæ proficuas, curias letarum, visus francplegii, et omnia quæ ad maritagia, ac omnia alia jura, jurisdictiones, commoditates, possessiones et hæreditamenta nostra quæcumque

cum pertinenciis, in Blakeaveton et alibi in dicto Comitatu nostro Devonæ, dicto Manerio de Blakeaveton quoquo modo spectantia vel pertinentia, aut quæ ut membra vel parcella ejusdem Manerii habita sive reputata existunt aut fuerunt, adeò plenè et integrè, ac in tam amplis modo et formâ, prout Simon, nuper Abbas dicti nuper Monasterii de Torre, et aliquis predecessorum suorum Abbatum ejusdem nuper Monasterii de Torre, in jure nuper Monasterii illius, aliquo in tempore ante dissolutionem ejusdem nuper Monasterii prædicti Manerium de Blakeaveton habuerunt, tenuerunt vel gavis fuerunt, habuit, tenuit vel gavisus fuit, seu habere, tenere vel gaudere debuerunt vel debuit, adeò plenè et integrè, ac in tam amplis modo et formâ, prout ea omnia et singula ad manus nostras, ratione et pretextu cujusdam Cartæ donacionis, concessionis reddissionis et confirmationis dicti nuper Abbatis et Conventus ejusdem nuper Monasterii de Torre nobis factæ, seu ratione vel pretextu alicujus Actûs Parliamenti, nuper devenire seu devenire debuerunt, et in manibus nostris jam existunt sive existere deberent. INSUPER, de uberiori gratiâ nostrâ speciali, ac ex certâ scientiâ et mero motu nostris, damus et concedimus, et pro consideratione prædictâ, per presentes pro nobis, Hæredibus et Successoribus nostris, concedimus præfato Johanni Russell, Militi, Baroni Russell, totam Domum et Scitum nuper Fratrum Prædicatorum infra Civitatem Exoniæ, modo dissolutam, Ac totam Ecclesiam, Campanile et Cimiterium ejusdem Domûs nuper Fratrum Prædicatorum, Ac omnia messuagia, domus, edificia, orrea, stabula, columbaria, mœlindina, stagna, ortos, pomaria, gardina, curtilagia, terram et solum nostra, tam infra, juxta et prope scitum, septum, ambitum, circuitum et precinctum ejusdem Domûs nuper Fratrum Prædicatorum prædictæ existentia, adeò plenè et integrè, ac in tam amplis modo et formâ, prout ultimus Prior dictæ Domûs nuper Fratrum Prædicatorum prædictorum aut aliquis predecessorum suorum Priorum ejusdem nuper Domûs, in jure nuper Domûs illius aliquo tempore ante dissolutionem ejusdem Domûs nuper Fratrum Prædicatorum illa habuerunt, tenuerunt vel



gavisi fuerunt, habuit, tenuit vel gavisus fuit, seu habere, tenere vel gaudere debuerunt vel debuit, **HABENDUM**, tenendum et gaudendum prædictum Domum et Scitum dicti nuper Monasterii de Tavistok, Ac prædictum Burgum et Villam de Tavistoke, Et omnia Burgagia nostra in Tavistoke prædicta, Et Hundredum de Hurdewike aliàs dictum Hundredum de Tavistok, Ac prædicta Maneria nostra de Hurdewike, Morewell et Morwelham, Milton Abbot aliàs dicta Milton Legh, Lamerton, Hole, Brentor, Wykedabernon, Peterstavy, Ottrewe aliàs Ottrey, Whitchurch et Newton, Ac prædictas Grangias et Bartonas de Hurdewyke, Morwell et Morwelham, Ac prædictum Manerium de Antony, Necnon Rectoriam et Vicariam de Tavystoke, Et Advocationem Vicariæ Ecclesiæ de Tavystoke, Et cætera omnia et singula præmissa in Tavystok, Hurdewyke, Milton aliàs dicta Milton Leigh, Lamerton, Hole, Brentor, Wikedabernon, Peterstavy, Ottrewe aliàs dicta Ottrie, Whitchurche, Morewell, Morwelham, Newton et Antony prædicta, præfato Johanni Russell, Militi, Baroni Russell et Dominae Annæ Uxori ejus et Hæredibus Masculis de Corpore ipsius Johannis Russell, Militis, Baronis Russell, legitime procreatis, **TENENDUM** de nobis Hæredibus et Successoribus nostris In Capite, per Servicium Unius Feodi Militis, Ac Reddendo inde annuatim, nobis Hæredibus et Successoribus nostris. **XXXVI** Libras ad Curiam nostram Augmentationum Revencionum Coronæ nostræ, ad Festum Sancti Michaelis Archangeli, singulis annis Solvendas pro omnibus Redditibus, Serviis et Demandis quibuscumque proinde nobis Hæredibus vel Successoribus nostris, quoquo modo, reddendis, solvendis vel faciendis, Et absque compoto seu aliquo alio proinde, nobis Hæredibus et Successoribus nostris, præter redditus et servicia prædictos nobis reservatos, quovismodo reddendo solvendo seu faciendo, **AC HABENDUM**, tenendum et gaudendum prædictum Burgum de Denbury, Ac prædicta Maneria de Denburi, Plymstoke, Worington, Cowike, Exwike, Barleigh, Olderidge, Cavelinche, Whymples, Woodmanston, Cristynstowe, Borington, Cornewood, Hawkewell et Blakeaveton, Ac dictas Rectorias Ecclesiarum de

Whitechurche, Lamerton, Mylton Abbot aliàs dicta Mylton Leigh et Borington, Ac dictam Capellam de Olderige, Et dictam Rectoriam Ecclesiæ Parochialis dudum vulgariter nuncupatam Saynt Thomas Churche extra Portam Occidentalem Civitatis Exoniæ, Et prædictas Rectorias Ecclesiarum de Cristenstowe, Okehampton, Sprayton, Antony et Petherwyn aliàs dicta North Petherwyn, Ac eciam dictas Rectorias de Olde Donkyswell et Awlescombe, ac Capellam ibidem, Ac dictam Rectoriam de Blackaveton, Neenon prædictas Advocaciones, Donaciones et Jura Patronatum Ecclesiarum Parochialium de Lamerton, Milton Abbot aliàs dicta Milton Leigh, Whitechurche, Peterstavy, Okehampton, Sprayton, Cristenstowe, Blackaveton, Borington, Worington, Olde Donkeswell, Aulescombe et Capellæ ibidem, Ac dictæ Ecclesiæ Parochialis extra Portam Occidentalem Civitatis Exoniæ, Et dictæ Capellæ de Olderige, Et prædictas Advocaciones Rectoriarum Vicariarum Ecclesiarum de Virgenstowe, Denbury, Whimble, Antony et Petherwyn aliàs dicta Northpetherwyn, Ac prædictam Domum et Scitum dicti nuper Monasterii de Dunkeswell, Ac prædictum Domum et Scitum dictorum nuper Fratrum Prædicatorum, Ac omnia et singula prædicta Bartonas, Grangias, Terras, Tenementa, ac omnia et singula præmissa cum pertinenciis in Denbury, Plymptokey, Worington, Cowike, Exwike, Barleigh, Olderige, Whymple et Cavelinche, Woodmanston, Cristenstowe, Boryngton, Cornewode, Hawkwell et Blackaveton, Okehampton, Sprayton, Donkeswell, Olde Dunkeswell, Awlescombe, Sheldon, Brodehemby et Luppytt prædictis, præfato Johanni Russell, Militi, Baroni Russell et Hæredibus Masculis de Corpore suo legitime procreatis, TENENDUM de nobis, Hæredibus et Successoribus nostris In Capite, per Servicium Unius Feodi Militis, Ac Reddendo inde annuatim, nobis Hæredibus et Successoribus nostris, CCXLVIII Libras V Solidos ad dictam Curiam nostram Augmentationum Revencionum Coronæ nostræ, ad dictum Festum Sancti Michaelis Archangeli, singulis annis Solvandos pro omnibus redditibus, serviciis et demandis quibuscumque proinde nobis Hæredibus et

Successoribus nostris quoquo modo reddendis, solvendis vel faciendis, Et absque compoto seu aliquo alio proinde, nobis Hæredibus vel Successoribus nostris, præter redditus et servicia prædictos nobis reservatos quovismodo reddendo, solvendo vel faciendo. **ET ULTERIUS**, de uberiori gratiâ nostrâ ac ex certâ scienciâ et mero motu nostris, et pro consideratione prædictâ, Damus et per præsentis concedimus præfato Johanni Russell, Militi, Baroni Russell, Omnia et omnimoda Exitus, Redditus, Revenciones et Proficua prædictorum Scituum dictorum nuper Monasteriorum de Tavistoke, Donkeswell et prædictorum Domûs et Scitûs nuper Fratrum Prædicatorum prædictorum, Maneriorum, Grangiarum, Rectoriarum et cæterorum omnium et singulorum præfissorum superiùs expressorum et specificatorum, cum pertinenciis, à Festo Sancti Michaelis Archangeli Anno regni nostri XXXo. hucusque provenientia sive crescentia. **HABENDUM** eidem Johanni Russell, Militi, Baroni Russell, ex dono nostro, absque compoto, seu aliquo alio proinde nobis Hæredibus et Successoribus nostris quoquo modo reddendo, solvendo vel faciendo. **ET ULTERIUS**, de ampliori gratiâ nostra speciali, ac ex certâ scienciâ et mero motu nostris, et pro consideratione prædictâ, Volumus, et per præsentis pro nobis Hæredibus et Successoribus nostris, Damus et concedimus præfato Johanni Russell, Militi, Baroni Russell, et Hæredibus Masculis de Corpore dicti Johannis Russell, Militis, et Baronis Russell, legitimè procreatis, Quòd idem Johannes Russell, Miles, Baro Russell, et Hæredes sui prædicti, imperpetuum de tempore in tempus, annuatim habebunt, tenebunt et gaudebunt, ac habere tenere, gaudere valeant et possint, ad libitum suum, infra prædicta maneria, hundreda, burgagia, et bartonas, ac omnia et singula alia præmissa superiùs expressa et specificata, tot, tanta, talia, hujusmodi et consimilia curias letæ, visus franciplegii, de omnibus et singulis tenentibus suis, tam residentibus quam non residentibus, et aliis quibuscumque ibidem residentibus, Ac omne id quod letam et visum franciplegii, assisam, assaiam panis et cerevisiæ, bona et catalla waviata, extrahuras ibidem contingentes, bona

et catalla felonum et fugitivorum, utlagatorum, at-  
 tinctorum, felonum de se, deodanda et in exigendo  
 posita, wreccum maris, liberas piscarias, liberas wa-  
 rennas, cum omnibus et singulis prædictis maneriis  
 et in quâlibet eorum parcellâ, ac commiciones placi-  
 torum realium, personalium, mixtarum, et querela-  
 rum, in omnibus curiis nostris, et tenere omnimoda  
 placita et querelas infra Burgum nostrum de Tavi-  
 stoke emergentia coram seneschallo et ballivis ipsius  
 Johannis Russell et Hæredum suorum prædictorum,  
 Ac fines et amerciamenta tenencium suorum, scilicet,  
 infangthief, outfangthief, retorna brevium, et execu-  
 ciones eorundem, Necnon omnia et omnimoda, tot,  
 tanta, talia, hujusmodi et consimilia alia libertates,  
 franchises, jura, jurisdictiones, privilegia, exemp-  
 ciones, commoditates, proficua, emolumenta quæ-  
 cumque, in omnibus et singulis prædictis maneriis et  
 cæteris præmissis, ac in quâlibet inde parcellâ, quot,  
 quanta, qualia, quæ, in eisdem et consimilibus modo  
 et formâ, adeo plenè et integrè, ac in tam amplis  
 modo et formâ, prout dicti nuper Abbates dictorum  
 nuper Monasteriorum, aut eorum alicujus, vel aliquis  
 prædecessorum suorum, Abbatum eorundem nuper  
 Monasteriorum, vel eorum alicujus, in jure nuper  
 Monasteriorum illorum, sive eorum alicujus, aliquo  
 tempore ante separales dissolutiones dictorum nuper  
 Monasteriorum, sive eorum alicujus, separaliter ha-  
 buerunt, tenuerunt vel gavisi fuerunt, habuit, tenuit,  
 vel gavisus fuit, seu habere, tenere vel gaudere de-  
 buerunt aut debuit, in maneriis prædictis et cæteris  
 præmissis, vel in aliquâ inde parcellâ, ratione et pre-  
 textu alicujus donacionis, concessionis vel confirma-  
 cionis, per nos seu aliquem progenitorum nostrorum  
 Regum Angliæ, præfatis nuper Abbatibus seu eorum  
 alicui seu aliquibus eorum prædecessorum, quoquo  
 modo factæ, vel ratione vel pretexto alicujus usûs,  
 consuetudinis sive præscriptionis, seu aliter quo-  
 cumque modo, HABENDUM, levandum, percipi-  
 endum et gandendum curias letæ et visus franciplegii  
 illas, et omne id quod ad letam et visum franciplegii  
 pertinent, Necnon eadem bona et catalla waviata,  
 bona et catalla felonum et fugitivorum, extrahuras,  
 warennas et cætera præmissa superius specificata,

cum omnibus et singulis suis pertinenciis, præfato Johanni Russell, Militi, Baroni Russell et Hæredibus Masculis de Corpore suo legitimè procreatis imperpetuum, absque compoto seu aliquo alio proinde nobis Hæredibus vel Successoribus nostris reddendo, solvendo vel faciendo. ET ULTERIUS, volumus, et per præsentés concedimus præfato Johanni Russell, Militi, Baroni Russell, et dictæ Annæ Uxori ejus et Hæredibus Masculis de Corpore ipsius Johannis legitimè procreatis, quòd nos Hæredes et Successores nostri, dictos Johannem Russell, Militem, et Baronem Russell, et Dominam Annam, Uxorem ejus, ac Hæredes Masculos de Corpore ipsius Johannis Russell legitimè procreatis, de omnibus et omnimodis arreragiis et respectibus reddituum, ac annuitatibus et corrodiis, ac redditibus omnibus, de maneriis, grangiis et rectoriis prædictis, ac de omnibus et singulis cæteris præmissis superiùs specificatis, cum pertinenciis, seu eorum aliquo exeuntibus seu solvendis, vel super eisdem seu eorum aliquo oneratis vel onerandis, Præterquam de serviciis et redditibus, superiùs per præsentés nobis reservatis, Et præterquam de redditibus, serviciis et redditibus siccois et aliis serviciis quibuscumque personam seu quascumque personas, de tempore in tempus, exonerabimus, acquietabimus et defendemus per præsentés, MANDANTES enim, et firmiter injungendo præcipientes, tam Cancellario et Consilio nostro Curie nostræ Augmentacionum Revencionum Coronæ nostræ, pro tempore existente, quàm omnibus Receptoribus, Auditoribus et cæteris officiariis et ministris nostris quibuscumque, Quòd ipsi et eorum quilibet, super solam demonstracionem harum Literarum nostrarum Patentium, absque aliquo alio brevi, warranto à nobis, Hæredibus vel Successoribus nostris, impetrando seu proseguendo, plenam, integram debitamque oblacionem, deduccionem, defalcacionem et exoneracionem, præfato Johanni Russell, Militi, Baroni Russell et Dominæ Annæ, Uxori ejus, et Hæredibus Masculis de Corpore ipsius Johannis Russell legitimè procreatis, de omnibus et omnimodis hujusmodi corrodiis, feodis, annuitatibus, redditibus, oneribus, arreragiis et respectibus redditus, de ma-

neriis, grangiis, rectoriis et cæteris præmissis, aut de aliquâ inde parcellâ, ut præfertur, exeuntibus vel solvendis, vel super eisdem seu aliquâ inde parte vel parcellâ oneratis vel onerandis, præterquam de prædictis redditibus et serviciis superiùs per præsentibus nobis reservatis, de et super solucione dicti annui redditûs XXXVI Librarum, et dictæ annuitatis CCXLVIII Librarum V Solidorum, tocians quociens aliqua hujusmodi allocatio defalcacio seu exoneracio fieri oportet, Et hæ Literæ nostræ Patentes erunt tam dicto Cancellario et Consilio nostro et Curiae nostræ Augmentacionum Revencionum Coronæ nostræ quàm quibuscumque receptoribus, auditoribus et aliis officiariis ministris nostris, sufficiens warrantum et exoneracio in hac parte. EO QUOD expressa mencio de vero valore annuo aut de certitudine præmissorum, sive eorum alicujus, aut de aliis donis sive concessionibus, per nos præfato Johanni Russell, Militi, Baroni Russell et Annæ Uxori ejus, ante hæc tempora factis, in præsentibus minimè facta existit, Aut aliquo Statuto, actu, ordinacione, provisione sive restrictione, inde in contrarium facto, edito, ordinato sive proviso, Aut aliquâ aliâ re, causa vel materiâ quâcumque, in aliquo non obstante IN CUJUS REI TESTIMONIUM has Literas nostras fieri fecimus Patentes. TESTE ME IPSO apud Westmonasterium IIII. Die Julii Anno Regni nostri XXXI.

(m) Referred to from p. 55.

*Grant of Forde Abbey, by Hen. VIII. to  
Richard Pollard, Esq.\**

Hec Indentura facta inter Excellentissimum Principem et Dominum, Dominum HENRICUM Octavum Dei gratiâ, &c. et Richardum Pollard, armigerum ex alterâ parte, Testatur quodd idem Dominus Rex per avisamentum et consensum Concilii Curie Augmentationum Revencionum Corone sue, tradidit, concessit et ad firmam dimisit prefato Ricardo Pollard, Scitum nuper Monasterii de Fforde in Comitatu Devonie, modo dissoluti, unâcum omnibus domibus, edificiis, orreis, columbariis, ortis, pomariis, gardinis, terrâ et solo infra scitum et precinctum ejusdem nuper Monasterii existentibus, Ac omnia illa terras, prata et pasturas Roweipytt, Crosehaye, Lytle Crosehay, Chepman, Furlongs, Grethowse, Gyffinlong, Mewmarlond, Bromehyll, Grettbromehill, Lytle Orchard Mede, Swyncroft, Schephowsecroft, Byelead, Poulemede, Blakeland, Horsecrofte, Wode Hogge Dyche, Neweleasse, Les Broneclose, Bereacres, Hetchclose, Westforde Park, Necnon parvam Vesturam prati vocati Brodmeade in Parochiâ de Charde in Comitatu prædicto, Ac omnia illa terras, prata et pasturas vocata Townedeane, Grangecroft, Lytle Howe, Plascrete Orchard Mede, Baymorecroft, Litle Park cum le Lodge ibidem, Ac omnia illa terras, prata et pasturas vocata Butmede, Schepemaysheclose, Glastonbury, Culidmede cum les Orchardes et les Pooles ac cum molendino aquatico. Tradidit eciam Dominus Rex et per avisamentum Concilii Curie prædictæ et ad firmam dimisit prefato Richardo Pollard totam illam Grangiam vocatam Strew Grange cum pertinenciis in Comitatu prædicto, dicto nuper Monasterio dudum spectantem et pertinentem, Ac omnia terras, prata et pasturas vocata

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\* E Collectt. MSS. Joannis Jones, de Franklyn, Arm.

Heckestone Wyll, Heckstonwyburg, Wollat, Strope Majore, Estdowne, Celapytisfeld, Castylfeld, Plafshett, Mounkendowne, Heyball, Heys, Street Mede, Brydgemedede, Chytfeld, Hasecroft, Strope Minor, Laymore, unâ cum communiâ et pasturâ CCC ovium super montem de Blackdowne ibidem, dicte Grangie spectantem et pertinentem: que omnia et singula premissa cum pertinenciis jacent et existunt in Fforde ac in villis, campis, parochiis, hamelettis ibidem adjacentibus in dicto Comitatu Devonie et predicto nuper Monasterio dudum spectabant et pertinebant ac in manibus, culturâ et occupatione proprii nuper Abbatis dicti nuper Monasterii ad usum Hospicii sui ante dissolutionem ejusdem nuper Monasterii, usualiter reservata et occupata fuerunt, Exceptis tamen semper et dicto Domino Regi, Heredibus et Successoribus suis omnino reservatis omnibus grossis arboribus et boscis de et super premissis crescentibus et existentibus ac omnibus talibus et ejusmodi edificiis infra scitum dicti nuper Monasterii que dictus Dominus Rex imposterum prosterni et auferri mandavit, Habendum et Tenendum predictum Scitum dicti nuper Monasterii ac predictas terras, prata et pasturas et omnia premissa superius specificata, excepto et exceptis, prefato Richardo Pollard et assignatis suis à festo Sancti Michaelis Archangeli ultimò preterito usque ad finem termini et pro termino XXI annorum ex tunc proximè sequentium ac plenariè completendorum, Reddendo inde annuatim dicto Domino Regi, Hæredibus et Successoribus suis £XLIX. VI. s. VI. legalis monete Anglie, viz. pro predicto Scitu dicti nuper Monasterii ac predictis terris, pratis, pasturis et cæteris premissis, preter Grangiam predictam vocatam Strete Grange et terram ac cetera premissa eidem Grangie pertinentia, £XXXVIII. IV. s. VI. et pro predictâ Grangiâ vocatâ Strete Grange et ceteris premissis eidem Grangie pertinentibus £XI. II. s. ad festa Annunciationis B. Marie Virginis et Sancti Michaelis Archangeli vel infra unum mensem post utrumque festum illorum ad Curiam predictam per equales porciones solvendos durante termino predicto. Et predictus Dominus Rex vult et per presentes concedit, quòd ipse, Heredes et Successores



sui Richardum Pollard et assignatos suos de omnibus redditibus, serviciis et denariorum decimis quibuscumque de premissis, seu eorum aliquo exeuntibus seu solvendis, preterquam de redditibus superius reservatis, versus quascumque personas de tempore in tempus exonerabunt, acquietabunt et defendent, ac omnia domos, edificia premissorum in maremio tantummodo, de tempore in tempus toties quoties necesse et opportunum fuerit, bene et sufficienter sustentari et manuteneri facient durante termino predicto. Et predictus Ricardus Pollard concedit per presentes quod ipse et assignati sui omnes necessarias reparaciones premissorum, preter maremium predictum, de tempore in tempus supportabunt et sustinebunt durante termino predicto. Et predictus Dominus Rex ulterius vult et per presentes concedit, quod bene licebit prefato Ricardo Pollard et assignatis suis capere, percipere et habere de, in et super premissis, per supervisionem et assignationem Supervisorum et aliorum Officiariorum Domini Regis ibidem pro tempore existentium, competentem et sufficientem hedgeboote, fyereboot, plowhowte et cartbotte, ibidem et non alibi expendendam et occupandam durante termino predicto. In cujus rei Testimonium uni parti hujus Indenture, penes Ricardum Pollard residente, Dominus Rex sigillum suum Curie predicte ad hujusmodi scriptum sigillandum deputatum, mandavit apponi: alteri vero parti ejusdem Indenture, penes eundem Dominum Regem residente, predictus Richardus Pollard sigillum suum apposuit. Datum apud Westmonasterium XXVIII Octobris, anno regni dicti Domini Regis XXXI<sup>o</sup>.

(n) Referred to from p. 59.

***Grant by the Abbot & Monks of Newenham,  
to the Custos and Canons of the Collegiate  
Church of Ottery, of a Yearly Rent Charge  
of XIIIls. IVd. temp. Edw. III.\****

Noverint universi per presentes, Nos Fratrem Walterum de la Hōwse, Abbatem Monasterii de Newenham in Comitatu Devonie et ejusdem loci Conventum, de nostro unanimi assensu pariter et consensu, dedisse, concessisse et hoc presenti nostro scripto confirmasse pro nobis et successoribus nostris imperpetuum dilectis nobis in Xto Custodi et Canonicis Collegii et Ecclesie Collegiate Sancte Marie de Otery, Comitatus predicti, Quendam Redditem annuum XIIIls. IIIId. sterlingorum, solvendum eisdem Custodi et Canonicis per manus nostras apud Otery, deferendum ad festa Purificationis et Assumptionis B. Marie Virginis equis porcionibus singulis annis imperpetuum. Et si contingat predictum redditum aretro fore in parte vel in toto, post festa predicta, quodd tunc benè liceat prefatis Custodi et Canonicis et eorum Successoribus, Nos et Conventum nostrum apud Newenham et alibi ubicumque in omnibus terris nostris, distringere et distictionem retinere donec redditus hujusmodi plenariè persolvatur, unà cum dampnis et expensis, si que fuerint. In cujus rei testimonium, sigilla nostra tam Abbatis quam Conventus presenti scripto apposuimus. Datum die Lune proximè ante festum Sancte Margarete Virginis, A. D. MCCCXLIIII et Anno Regni Regis Edwardi Tertii à Conquestu XVIIIo.

N. B. It is clear, from the Chartulary of Chertsey Abbey, in Lord Clifford's Library at Ugbrooke, that King Edward III. began his reign on the 29th of January, 1326. O. S. and not on the 20th January, as is frequently asserted.

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\* E Collect. MSS. Joannis Jones, de Franklyn, Arm.

(c) Referred to from p. 112.

***A Composition between the Prior and Convent of Plympton, and the Prior and Canons of Canonsleigh, concerning the Elections of their respective Priors, in 1219.***

Ex Regist. Bronescombe, fo. 16.

Hec est amicabile compositio facta inter Priorem et Conventum de Plympton ex parte unâ, et Priorem et Canonicos de Legh ex alterâ parte, super controuersiis inter ipsos motis, coram Venerabili Patre S.\* Dei gratiâ Exonie Episcopo, Scilicet, cûm Prior de Legh fuerit eligendus, hoc Episcopo Exonie debet pronunciari, ut in propriâ personâ per se, vel per aliquem alium, quem voluerit loco sui destinare, intersit electioni. Similiter Priori de Plympton debet nunciari, ut ipse intersit electioni si voluerit, ita tamen quòd non habuerit vocem in electione, nec per Episcopum, nec per Priorem impediatur, quominus ille Prior constituatur, quem elegerint Canonici de Legh de corpore Ecclesiæ sue de Legh. Si autem non consenserint in aliquem de gremio Ecclesiæ sue de Legh, tunc priusquàm ad aliquam aliam decurratur Ecclesiam, de Ecclesiâ de Plympton aliquem sibi eligent in Priorem. Si autem non consenserint (quod absit) in aliquam personam predicatorum Ecclesiarum, de aliquâ Conventuali Ecclesiâ ejusdem Ordinis et Regulari, aliquam idoneam personam in Priorem sibi assument. Ex quo autem fuerit ibi Prior secundum supradictum modum electus et per Exonie Episcopum confirmatus, habeat plenam potestatem Canonicorum recipiendorum et regendorum et plenam administrationem omnium ad Ecclesiam de Legh pertinentium. Preterea Prior de

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\*mon de Apulâ, who presided in the See of Exeter from 1214 to 1224.

**Legh corriget excessus Canonicorum de Legh et alia emendabit que fuerint ibidem emendanda cum consensu Canonicorum suorum. Si autem tantus et talis fuerit excessus (quod absit) ut per Priorem et Canonicos de Legh sine scandalo non valeat emendari, tunc Prior et Canonici de Legh significabunt Priori de Plympton, ut caritative ad domum eorum veniat, consilium eis in corrigendis excessibus impensurus. Et per hanc compositionem sopita fuerunt omnia litigia inter eos prius exorta, et omnes exacerbationes et contenciones huiusmodi sunt remisse. Si non per consilium predictorum excessus in dicta Domo poterint emendari, Exonie Episcopus, qui pro tempore fuerit, eos secundum Deum emendabit. Acta sunt hec Exonie, quarta feria post festum Sancte Trinitatis, Anno Incarnationis Domini MCCXIX, Presentibus Domino Exonie Episcopo, Henrico Archidiacono Exonie, R.\* Archidiacono Totton, Radulfo Archidiacono Barnastaple, Magistris Ysaac, N. Canonicis Exonie et multis aliis.**

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\* Le Neve could not discover the name of this Archdeacon.

(p) Referred to from p. 126.

***Royal Grant to William Lord Howard and  
Lady Margaret his Wife, of Barnstaple  
Priory, 9. March, 29. Henry VIII. 1534.\****

REX omnibus ad quos &c. Salutem. SCIATIS quodd nos, in consideratione boni, fidelis et acceptabilis servicii, quod dilectus nobis Willelmus Dominus Howard, ante hæc tempora nobis fecit, Dedimus et concessimus, ac per presentes damus et concedimus, eidem Willelmo Domino Howard et Domine Margaretæ, Uxori ejus, Domum et Scitum nuper Prioratûs Monachorum Sanctæ Mariæ Magdalensæ de Barnestapoll aliàs Barstaple, in Comitatu nostro Devonie, auctoritate Parliamenti suppressi et dissoluti, Ac totam Ecclesiam, Campanile et Cimiterium ejusdem nuper Prioratûs, Necnon omnia messuagia, domos, edificia, grangias, orrea, stabula, columbaria, ortos, pomaria, gardina, terras et solum nostra, tam infra quam extra scitum, septum, ambitum, circuitum et precinctum dicti nuper Prioratûs existentia, eidem nuper Prioratui spectantia et pertinentia ac parcellass inde existentia, Ac etiam omnia illa Maneria nostra de Barnestapoll, Pylton, Strechton et Ingestowe aliàs Instowe, cum eorum membris et pertinentiis universis, in Comitatu prædicto, dicto nuper Prioratui spectantia et pertinentia, Necnon totam Rectorem nostram Ecclesiæ Parochialis de Barnestapoll cum suis juribus et pertinentiis universis, in Comitatu prædicto, dicto nuper Prioratui appropriatam, spectantem et pertinentem et Advocacionem, Donacionem et Jus Patronatûs ejusdem Ecclesiæ et Vicariæ ibidem, Ac duo Molendina nostra aquatica, vocata Port Mylles, cum pertinentiis in Barnestapoll prædictâ et Pylton in Comitatu prædicto, eidem nuper Prioratui spectantia et pertinentia, Necnon totum

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\* E Collect. MSS. Joannis Jones, de Franklyn, Arm.

Boscuſ nostrum, vocatum Monkewode cum pertinentiis in Marwode, Ac totum Boscuſ nostrum vocatum Yernewode cum pertinentiis in Pylton, et omnia illa Terras et Tenementa nostra cum pertinentiis in Ingestowe, in Comitatu prædicto dicto nuper Prioratui spectantia et pertinentia, Necnon unam Annuitatem sive annualem Pencionem Centum Solidorum exeuntem de Vicariâ sive Ecclesiâ de Barnestapoll prædictâ in Comitatu prædicto, quam Vicarius ibidem pro tempore existente annuatim solvere consuevit dicto nuper Prioratui, et unam Annuitatem sive annualem Pencionem Centum Solidorum exeuntem de Ecclesiâ sive Rectoriâ de Georgeham aliâs Ham Sancti Georgii, in Comitatu prædicto, quam Rector ibidem dicto nuper Prioratui annuatim solvere consuevit, Ac unam Annuitatem sive annualem Pencionem Triginta Solidorum exeuntem de Rectoriâ sive Ecclesiâ Omnium Sanctorum de Fremyngton, in Comitatu prædicto, quam Rector ibidem dicto nuper Prioratui annuatim solvere consuevit, Ac unam Annuitatem sive annualem Redditum Quadringinta Solidorum exeuntem de Castro, Dominio vel Manerio sive Burgo de Barnestapoll in Comitatu prædicto, quæ dicto nuper Prioratui de Barnestapoll solvi consuevit, solvendam ad Festum Sancti Michaelis Archangeli, per manus receptoris, ballivi, firmariorum sive aliorum occupatorum ibidem pro tempore existente, Necnon omnia alia maneria, mesuagia, terras, tenementa, molendina, prata, pascuas, pasturas, boscos, subboscos, redditus, reversiones, servicia, annuitates, firmas, feodi firmas, wardas, maritagia, escaetas, relevia, aquas, stagna, vivaria, warennas, communias, piscarias, penciones, porciones, decimas, oblaciones, curias letas, visus franciplegii, ac omnia quæ ad visum franciplegii pertinent, et alia jura, jurisdictiones, libertates, possessiones et hereditamenta nostra quæcunque, tam temporalia quàm spiritualia, cujuscunque sint generis, naturæ vel speciei, seu quibuscunque nominibus censeantur vel cognoscantur, cum suis juribus, membris, pertinentiis et commoditatibus quibuscunque, scituata, jacentia et existentia in villis campis, parochiis seu hamellettis de Barnestapoll,

Pylton, Bradford, Strechton, Wetherige, Delbrige, Fullyngote, Nethercote, Instowe, Collecote, Marwode, Crede, Georgeham aliàs Sancti Georgii, West Ansty, Wolley Downe, Shyrewell, Heawnton Poncherdon, Est Hakenden, Berynarber, Chalocombe, Langtre, Kyntesbury, Keymelond, Stoke Ryvers, Potyngdon et Fremyngton, in Comitatu prædicto, seu alibi ubicunque, dicto nuper Prioratui quovismodo pertinentia sive spectantia, adeo plenè et integrè ac in tam amplis modo et formâ prout Robertus Thorne, nuper Prior dicti nuper Prioratûs de Barnestapoll aut predecessores seu priores ejusdem loci, in jure prioratûs illius, quarto die Februarii, anno regni nostri vicesimo septimo, aut unquam antea, omnia et singula præmissa cum pertinentiis habuerunt, tenuerunt vel gavisii fuerunt, habuit, tenuit vel gavisus fuit, aut habere debuerunt vel debuit, ac adeo plenè et integrè et in tam amplis modo et formâ, prout ea omnia et singula præmissa ad manus nostras ratione et pretexto cujusdam Actûs de quibus monasteriis, abbatiis, prioratibus et domibus religiosis dissolvendis, in Parlamento nostro apud Londinum, terciâ die Novembris anno regni nostri vicesimo primo inchoato, et deinde usque Westmonasterium adjornato, et per diversas prorogaciones usque ad et in quantum diem Februarii anno regni nostri vicesimo septimo continuato, et tunc ibidem tento, inter alia editi et provisi, devenerunt seu devenire debuerunt, ac in manibus nostris jam existunt aut existere debent. **ET ULTERIUS**, Damus et per præsentès concedimus præfato Willelmo Domino Howard et Domine Margaretæ, Uxori ejus, Rectoriam Ecclesiæ Parochialis de Totenham cum pertinentiis, in Comitatu nostro Middlesex. nuper Prioratui Sanctæ Trinitatis London. modo dissoluto spectantem et pertinentem, et Advocacionem, Donacionem et Jus Patronatûs ejusdem Ecclesiæ et Vicariæ ibidem, Ac omnia maneria, mesuagia, domos, edificia, ærrea, terras, tenementa, boscos, redditus, reversiones, serviçia, decimas, oblationes, obventus, penciones, porciones, curias et alia jura, jurisdictiones, libertates, possessiones, et hereditamenta nostra quæcunque, tam spiritualia quam temporalia, cujuscunque sint generis, naturæ

vel speciei, seu quibuscunque nominibus censeantur vel cognoscantur, cum suis juribus, membris, pertinentiis et commoditatibus quibuscunque, scituata, jacentia et existentia in villis, locis, campis, parochiis et hamellettis de Totenham prædicta et Edelmeton, in prædicto Comitatu Middlesex. dicto nuper Prioratui Sanctæ Trinitatis London. quovismodo pertinentia sive spectantia, adeò plenè et integrè ac in tam amplis modo et formâ, prout Nicholaus Hancock, nuper Prior dicti nuper Prioratûs Sanctæ Trinitatis aut predecessores seu priores ejusdem nuper Prioratûs, in jure Prioratûs illius, tempore dissolutionis ejusdem nuper Prioratûs, aut antea, illa habuerunt tenuerunt vel gavisi fuerant, habuit, tenuit vel gavisus fuit, seu habere debuerunt vel debuit. DAMUS eciam et per presentes concedimus præfato Willelmo Domino Howard et Dominæ Margaretæ, Uxori ejus, visum franciplegii, ac omnia quæ ad visum franciplegii pertinent, catalla felonum, fugitivorum, utlagatorum et dampnatorum, felonum de se et deodanda in omnibus et singulis prædictis maneriis, terris, tenementis et cæteris præmissis et in quâlibet eorundem parcellâ, Quæquidem omnia et singula præmissa, superiùs per præsentis concessa, cum pertinentiis, sunt clari valoris Centum quinquaginta quinque librarum, quatuor solidorum et sex denariorum per annum, et non ultrâ, HABENDUM et tenendum Domum et Scitum prædictum, ac maneria, mesuagia, terras ac cætera omnia et singula præmissa superiùs specificata cum pertinentiis, præfato Willelmo Domino Howard et Dominæ Margaretæ, Uxori ejus, et hæredibus de corporibus eorum inter eos legitimè procreatis, et pro defectu hujusmodi exitûs, Remanere inde, hæredibus de corpore dicti Willelmi Domini Howard legitimè procreatis, TENENDUM de nobis, Hæredibus et Successoribus nostris, in Capite, per Servicium Militare; videlicet, per decimam partem servicii unius Feodi Militis, ac per Redditum viginti unius librarum annuatim nobis Hæredibus et Successoribus nostris, ad Curiam Augmentationum Revencionum Coronæ nostræ, ad Festum Sancti Michaelis Archangeli, Solvendum, pro omnibus serviciis, exactionibus et demandis quibus-



cunque, de, in, aut pro, premissis quovismodo faciendis, exigendis, solvendis vel reddendis, ET ULTERIUS, Damus et per Presentes concedimus præfato Willelmo Domino Howard, Exitus, Revenciones et Proficua premissorum, à Festo Annunciacionis Beate Mariæ Virginis, anno regni nostri vicesimo septimo, hucusque provenientes sive crescentes, HABENDUM eidem Willelmo Domino Howard, ex dono nostro, absque compoto seu aliquo alio proinde nobis, Hæredibus vel Successoribus nostris, quovismodo reddendo, solvendo vel faciendo. Eò quòd expressa Mencio, &c. IN CUJUS, &c. T. R. apud Westmonasterium IX. die Marcii. Per ipsum Regem et de datâ prædictâ, &c.

(g) Referred to from p. 146.

***Bishop Henry Marshall's Appropriation of  
Otterton Church, and others, A. D. 1205.***

E Custumali de Otterton, penes Rev. Duke Yonge.

Omnibus etc. HENRICUS Dei gratiâ Exonie Episcopus Salutem. Ad universitatis vestre perveniat notitiam quòd nos Karitatis intuitu, concessimus Deo et Ecclesie Sancti Michaelis de Monte in Periculo Maris et Monachis ibidem Deo servientibus, ad peregrinorum et hospitum susceptionem, Ecclesias sequentes in Episcopatu nostro constitutas, cum primo vacaverint, in proprios usus suos, in puram et perpetuam eleemosynam, habendas et possidendas cum pertinentiis suis, vidt. Ecclesiam de Otrint cum capellâ suâ de Lahedreland, Ecclesiam de Sithe-muge, Ecclesiam de Articumb, Ecclesiam de Harpeford, et, in Cornubiâ, Ecclesiam de Morres et Ecclesiam Sancti Hilarii, Salvâ honestâ sustentatione Capellanorum Ecclesiis illis deservientium, qui nobis et Successoribus nostris de Episcopalibus respondeant, Salvis eciam nostris jure et auctoritate Episcopali in omnibus. Et ut hec nostra concessio rata et inconcussa permaneant in perpetuum, eam presenti scripto et sigilli nostri appensione confirmavimus. Dat. Criton pridie Kal. Septembris, Pontificatus nostri anno XII<sup>o</sup>. Hiis testibus Galtero et Henrico Cornubie et Exonie Archidiaconis, et ceteris.

Referable to p. 60.

***Bull of Pope Innocent IV. to the Premonstratensian Order.***

E Regist. Bronescombe, fo. 87.

INNOCENTIUS Episcopus, Servus Servorum Dei, dilectis filiis Abbati Premonstratensi et universis Abbatibus, Propositis et Fratribus Premonstratensis Ordinis, Salutem et Apostolicam Benedictionem. Paci et tranquillitati vestre ac Monasteriorum et locorum vestrorum Paternā volentes in posterum sollicitudine providere, auctoritate vobis Presencium indulgemus, ut nulle litere Apostolice vel Legatorum Apostolice Sedis, que contra vos vel Monasteria seu Loca vestra obtente fuerint, aliquam optineant firmitatem, nec earum auctoritate conveniri possitis, nisi expressam de Premonstratensi Ordine et hac Indulgentiā fecerint mentionem. Nulli ergo omnino homini liceat hanc paginam nostre Concessionis infringere, vel ei ausu temerario contraire. Si quis autem hoc attemptare presumpserit, indignationem Omnipotentis Dei et Beatorum Petri et Pauli, Apostolorum ejus, se noverit incursurum. Datum Lugduni pridie Kal. Junii, Pontificatus nostri anno VII<sup>o</sup>.

This Pope governed the Church from 1243 to 1254. He called the Thirteenth General Council, at Lyons, in 1245.

Referable to p 61.

***Bulla Privilegii quam exhibuit Gulielmus Norton, Abbas de Torre.***

E 2. Regist. Brantyngham, fo. 26.

MARTINUS Episcopus, Servus Servorum Dei, dilectis filiis Abbati et Conventui de Torre, Ordinis Premonstratensis, Exoniensis Dioces. Salutem et Apostolicam Benedictionem. Religionis vestre permovet honestas, ut petitiones vestras, quantum in Deo possumus, ad exauditionis gratiam, admittamus. Hinc est quod vestris supplicationibus inclinati et ecclesiis vestris de Bradeworth et Bocland, Scheftbeare, Tounstall, Hanok et Scytesbrok Exon. et Lincoln. Dioc. quas in usus proprios vos asseritis optinere, in quibus ordinate sunt Vicarie et perpetui Vicarii instituti, liceat nobis cedentibus vel decedentibus ipsarum Ecclesiarum Vicarias per duos de vestris Canonicis Sacerdotes ydoneos singulis Ecclesiis facere deserviri, quorum unum utrique Diocesano Episcopo presentetis, qui ei de Spiritualibus, vobis autem de Temporalibus et Ordinis observantia debeat respondere; dumodo ipsis Sacerdotibus tantum de ipsarum Ecclesiarum proventibus relinquatur, ut Diocesanis de suis juribus respondere valeant et universa onera ipsis Ecclesiis incumbentia supportare, Auctoritate Apostolica et tenore preteritum indulgemus. Nulli igitur omnino homini liceat hanc paginam nostre concessionis infringere aut ausu temerario contraire. Si quis autem hoc attemptare presumpserit, indignationem Omnipotentis Dei et Beatorum Petri et Pauli, Apostolorum ejus, se noverit incursurum. Datum apud Urbem.

This bull, without date, is probably one of Pope Martin's the Fourth, and issued between the years 1281 and 1285. In fo. 71. of the same Register, is a similar Grant of Pope Gregory's XI. dated 13. Kal. Sept. A. 6. Pontif. circ. 1376.

Referable to pp. 94—5—6.

***Bishop Grandisson's Ordinance respecting  
the Constitution of the Hospital of SS.  
John Baptist, and John Evangelist, in  
Exeter.***

E 1. Regist. Grandisson, fo. 184.

Universis Sancte Matris Ecclesie filiis pretioso Christi sanguine redemptis, JOHANNES, miseratione ejusdem, Exonie Episcopus, salutem in eo qui est omni vera salus. Universitati vestre innotescimus per presentes quòd, in principiis nostre Promocionis ad curam regiminis Pastoralis cui presidemus licèt immeriti, Hospitale SS. Johannis Baptiste ac Johannis Evangeliste in Civitate Exonie, Fundacionis ac Patronatùs Episcopalis, ita desolatum comperimus, quòd ut in eo, unicum fratrem Presbyterum habitum deferentem et paucos infirmos invenimus decumbentes: cujus desolacioni non mediocriter compa-cientes, sanctamque Religionem in eodem plenius plantare ad laudem et honorem Altissimi et Sancto-rum suorum predictorum votivis affectibus cupientes, et mediantibus ope et auxilio Executorum Testamen-torum Thome et Walteri Secundi Predecessorum nostrorum Exonie Episcoporum, necnon nobilis quondam viri Willelmi Martyn, Numerum Quinque Fratrum Sacerdotum ibidem Deo famulancium, unum eorum in Priorem preficiendo, curam animarum Confratrum, et Pauperum dicti Hospitalis, ut anti-quitùs fieri consuevit, committendo, ad divini cultùs augmentum, et Duodecim pauperum infirmorum, necnon Octo puerorum pauperum cum Magistro ad eos in Grammaticis instruendum, de consensu dilec-torum filiorum Decani et Capituli Ecclesie nostre Cathedralis Exonie, prout in alijs literis nostris ple-nius continetur, perpetualiter curavimus ordinare; predictosque Fratres Ordinem et Observanciam Re-

gule Sancti Augustini, ad laudem et honorem ejusdem Domini nostri Jesu Christi necnon Johannis ejus Evangeliste et Apostoli predilecti, ordinavimus et fecimus profiteri. Dehinc quia, propter defectum proprii Cemiterii, omnia in dicto Hospitali decedentium funera ad commune Civitatis Pollandrum juxta Ecclesiam Cathedralē, non sine magno labore fratrum et tedio et Officii Divini impedimento ac aliis distractionibus, humanda deferri consueverant, Volentes tam pium opus ac Religionem, sic per nos plantatam, uberius promovere et solidare, ipsorumque Religiosorum devocionem ad ipsam Ecclesiam et Locum eundem in quo vivere sunt professi, et tam ipsi quàm infirmi et pauperes supradicti sacra Ecclesiastica recipere consueti, ferventiùs excitare, Ecclesiam dicti Hospitalis et quandam Aream infra cepta ejusdem, prefate Ecclesie contiguam, unà cum interiori Ambitu dicte Ecclesie cum parte Claustri et Capituli, habito priùs super hoc tractatu cum dilectis in Christo filiis Decano et Capitulo Ecclesie nostre Cathedralis predictae, et nullo pro tunc contradicente, assistentibusque nobis quibusdam ejusdem Ecclesie nostre Canonicis, pro sepulturâ Prioris, Fratrum et Pauperum predictorum inibi obtinendâ, dedicavimus, et pro Priore, Fratribus et Pauperibus supradictis liberam et ab omni onere quietam secundum Sanctos Canones concessimus et per presentes concedimus Sepulturam: juribus nostris et Ecclesie nostre Cathedralis predictae, quoad alios sepulturam inibi eligentes, in omnibus semper salvis. In cujus rei testimonium presentes literas sigilli nostri appensione fecimus communiri. Datum in Manerio nostro de Chuddeleghe ultimo die Mensis Marcii A. D. MCCCLIV et Consecrationis nostre XXVIIo.

Referable to p. 98.

*Archbishop Peckham's Letter to Bishop Quivil, concerning the Observance of a Papal Indult.*

E Regist. Quivil, fo. 113. 114.

Anno MCCLXXXI.—XVII: Kal. Decembris apud Clyst, Inspeximus Literas Domini Cantuariensis infrascriptas, Literas Apostolicas in se continentes, sub hac formâ verborum.

“Frater JOHANNES permissione Divinâ Cantuariensis Ecclesie Minister humilis, totius Anglie Primas, Conservator Privilegiorum Ordinis Fratrum Minorum, Venerabili Fratri, Dei gratiâ, Episcopo Exonie, Salutem et fraterne caritatis continuum incrementum. Noveritis nos Literas Sancte memorie Domini Clementis Quarti, quondam Summi Pontificis, non cancellatas, non abolitas, nec in sui parte aliquâ cancellatas, in subscriptâ verborum serie, inspexisse.”

CLEMENS Episcopus, Servus Servorum Dei, dilectis filiis Generali Ministro et Fratribus universis Ordinis Fratrum Minorum, Salutem et Apostolicam Benedictionem. Quidam, temeré sentientes et ad sobrietatem sapere nescientes, imprudenter asserere presumunt, quòd de licentiâ vel commissione ac concessione Romani Pontificis, seu Legatorum Sedis Apostolice vel Ordinariorum locorum, vos sine Sacerdotum Parochialium licentiâ et assensu non potestis liberè predicare populis, audire confessiones, absolvere Penitentes ac Penitentias injungere salutares. Nos volentes assertionem tam temerariam penitus confutare et elucidare in talibus Veritatem, deliberatione providâ declaramus, quòd si vobis detur licentiâ, committatur seu concedatur à Legatis Predictæ Sedis aut Ordinariis locorum (nedum à Romano Pontifice, de quo proculdubio est erroneum dubitare,) ut hi omnes sine alicujus consensu, imò et invitis quibuscumque hujusmodi, concedere possint potestatem populis

**Legatis et Vicariis subjectis, eisdem liberè predicare potestis, audire confessiones, absolvere vobis confitentes et penitencias vobis confitentibus injungere salutares, aliorum Ministrorum, Prelatorum et Rectorum Ecclesiarum ac Sacerdotum Parochialium assensu nullatenus requisito; illis casibus exceptis, qui de jure, consuetudine seu retentione ab eis specialiter facta, sed Sedi Apostolice et Ordinariis predictis specialiter relinquuntur, ad quas non licet vos extendere, nisi vobis specialiter committatur. Idemque auctoritate Apostolicà districciùs inhibemus, ne quisque super hiis vel eorum aliquo, vos vel aliquem vestrum, aut et confitentes vobis, vel ad predicationes vestras forsitan accedentes, contra predictam declarationis formam aliquatenus molestare presumat; Decernentes Nos, irritum et inane quicquid à quopiam contra declarationem et inhibitionem hujus contigit attemptari. Nulli igitur homini liceat hanc paginam nostre declarationis et constitutionis infringere, vel ei ausu temerario contraire. Si quis autem hoc attemptare presumpserit, indignationem Omnipotentis Dei et Beatorum Petri et Pauli, Apostolorum ejus, se noverit incursurum. Datum Peris XII. Kal. Julii, Pontificatus nostri anno primo.**

**“Hujus igitur auctoritate Mandati, Fraternitatem vestram requirimus et hortamur, ne predictos Fratres contra Indultum hujusmodi permittatis à quocumque Subditorum vestrorum impediri vel indebitè molestari; quibus universis et singulis sub penà Excommunicationis, ne hoc clam vel palam, directè vel indirectè, facere audeant, prohibemus. Datum apud Slygdon VII. Kal. Augusti, Anno Domini MCCLXXXI, Pontificatus nostri anno secundo.”**



Referable to p. 99.

*The following Document, most beautifully written in fol. 128, of Bronescombe's Register, contains a Grant of the Use of a Library to the Franciscan Convent, in Exeter.*

Sciant presentes et futuri, quòd ego Frater Wilhelmus de Takebire, tunc Guardianus Ordinis Minorum Exonie, et ejusdem Loci Conventus, Cartam Magistri Rogeride Thoris, tunc Archidiaconi Exonie, in bonâ prosperitate constituti, suscepimus in hec verba.

“Noscat presens Etas sciatque futura Posteritas, quòd ego Rogerus de Thoris,\* tunc Archidiaconus Exonie, in bonâ mentis et corporis prosperitate constitutus, inestimabilem fructum per Fratres Minores et Predicatores, animarum salutis et subditorum nostrorum et aliorum correctione insistentes, jugiter et Deo Creatori nostro continuè famulantes in Ecclesiâ Dei, provenientem considerans, caritative dedi, concessi et presentis scripture meo testimonio confirmavi Communitati Fratrum Minorum in Civitate Exonie, presentibus et futuris temporibus commorantium, Usum Librorum subscriptorum; Salvo Predicatoribus Civitatis ejusdem ipsorum Librorum usu, per partes et ad tempus cum indiguerint, dum tamen ydonee, comodi et absque impedimento notabili sepe manifesto id fieri poterit; Dominio eorundem librorum mihi dum vixero, omni tempore, reservato; et, me decedente, dominium predictorum librorum ad Decanum Majoris Ecclesie Exonie, qui pro tempore fuerit et ad Capitulum transeat immediate; ita tamen quòd non liceat ulli viventi dictos libros vendere, donare, impignorari, vel aliquo modo alienare vel

\* Roger de Thoris became Dean of Exeter in 1270, and died four years after.

etiam ad alios usus convertere. Et sunt hii libri de quorum usu suprâ fit mentio, scilicet, *Primum volumen Pentateuci*—item, *primum Volumen Historialium*—item, *primum volumen Prophetarum*—item, *Matheus et Marcus* in uno volumine—item, *quinque libri Salomonis* in uno volumine—item, *Actus Apostolorum et Canonice\** cum *Apocalipsi* in uno Volumine—item, *primum volumen Originalium Augustini*—item, *tertium Vol. Summe Fratris Alexandri† super Sententias*, in quo est tertius liber et magna pars quarti Sententiarum—item, *Summa Magistri Willelmi de Auccere‡*—item, *magne Concordantie Predicatorum* in uno Vol.—item, *Postille§ super omnes libros Historiales, preter librum Macchabeorum* in uno Vol.—item, *Postille super Psalterium in diversis locis secundum fratrem Hugonem Cardinalem|| cum thematibus per totum annum et cum questionibus Philippi Cancellarii Parisiensis*, que sic incipiant, *Vadam in agrum*, in uno Vol.—item, *Distinctiones Philippi Cancellarii Parisiensis super Psalterium cum Summa sermonum subtilium* que incipit, *Quasi diluculo*—item, *Psalterium Bononiense glosatum*. Quicumque hanc Donationem meam qualitercunque immutare presumpserit in futurum, Dei Omnipotentis maledictionem incurrat: Datum die Purificationis, Anno Domini MCCLXVI.”

Quam quidem Cartam et ejus formam totam in omnibus articulis suis gratanter acceptantes, bonâ fide eidem promittimus et tam nos quam nobis successuros, testimonio scripture presentis teneri denunciamus et denunciabimus et cum effectu curabimus ad omnium et singulorum in Cartâ memoratâ contentorum observationem fidelem et perpetuam. Et ut

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\* ubaudi, *Epistolæ*.

† Alexander of Hales, a native of Gloucestershire and an eminent Divine and Canonist, of the Franciscan Order. He died at Paris in 1245.

‡ Bishop of Auxerre: he flourished in the middle of the 13th Century.

§ A Gloss or Commentary.

|| Hugo de Sancto Claro, in Burgundy, was of the Dominican Order, and was made Cardinal in 1244.

indè major fiat securitas, concedimus pro nobis et fratribus futuris, quòd in fini cujuslicet anni revoluti, memoratus Decanus quicumque pro tempore fuerit post mortem prefati Archidiaconi, cum aliquo ex parte Capituli ad hoc deputato, super premissis factis et concessis examinationem faciat in domo nostra diligenter, per quam si quid contra tenorem prefate carte inveniatur attemptatum, illud sine more dispendio, per eundem Decanum cum consilio Capituli sui revocatur ad statum debitum, ordinatum et bonà fide promissum. In cujus rei testimonium presenti Scripto, sigillum meum unà cum sigillo Conventus nostri fecimus apponi. Datum die Purificationis Anno Domini MCCLXVI.

Referable to p. 102.

***Bishop Edmund Lucy's Sermon, delivered in the Chapter House of the Dominican Convent, in Exeter, on the 15th of August, A. D. 1441, before a General Chapter of the Order.***

Ascendit de Deserto deliciis affluens.

Canticorum VIIIo. Capitulo, et pro Themate Assumptionis hodiernæ.

Preclari Domini ac Patres Ecclesiæ Mirabiles Anglicane, preluce di Predicatores, Archipredicatores; nostrum Celicium; nostrum Dominum in actibus ierarchicis imitantes, mutuò vos hortamur ad assensum pro themate electum. Ascendit enim Christus noster legifer prelibatus in montem ut Doctor et Predicator, Ascendit secundò in montem ut devotissimus Orator—Ascendit tertio Calvarie humilitatem ut vigilantissimus Speculator. Cum igitur Predicatoris et Speculatoris concurrunt officia, vos Predicatores exhortor ad speculum ascendendum ad talia videlicet pericula providenda, ad remedia providenda et ad suffragia capessenda—primum pertinens ad sollicitudinem—secundum ad discretionem—tertium ad devotionem. Speculatori enim non congruit temporibus nunc periculosos in locis latebrosis dormire; sed in loco eminentiore stare et imminencia periculi annunciare ne quid periculi emergat quod non prævideatur; terribilem Domini subituras sententiam Ezechielis tertio "Speculatorum dedi te" &c. et capitulo XXXIIIo. "Si Speculator viderit gladium vententem et non insonderit buccina, veneritq; gladius; tulerit eum iste, in iniquitate captus est; sanguinem autem ejus de manu speculatoris requiram." Ascendite ergo ad profundam Sacre Scripturæ intelligentiam et tales ad apicem in eà decoratos in hoc sacro festo Capitulari Concilio eligatis, qui ad

mores et scientiam optime sunt indolis, non proponendo Goliardos \* cantores, ineptulos aut† comatulas Patriâ et sanguine convictos—tales inquam in altitudine Scripturarum insonabunt buccinâ, previdebunt spiritûs pericula et providebunt remedia; set tanta est eminencia intelligencie que impugnatur, tanta cautela culpe que impugnatur, tanta latencia spiritualis plage que aggravat, quod nec quisquam unquam reperietur tam solus aut stultus qui possit contra inalignantes in Ecclesiam sanctam sine orationum suffragiis efficaciter subsistere. Ideo cum Cartusiensibus, ut refert Jacobus de Losaunâ, prope  
..... hujus festi in vigiliâ in parvâ Grangiâ pernoctantibus post artam panis et aque sumpcionem cum ciliciis ad nudam humum soporantibus, horâ Ordinis consuetâ surgentibus, matutinas decantantibus cum “Felix namque” usque ad Versum decurso, indicibili suavitate vox auditur Angelica, clarè personans “Ora pro populo, &c.” Et uos in Collacionis exordio oremus pro Principibus et Populo, pro Capite Ecclesie et Clero, pro Femineo Sexu ad Ecclesiam devoto, et pro dormientibus et Fidelibus viventibus, ut post seculi desertum celestibus possint affluere deliciis, pro commendatis consuetis et aliis vobis et michi necessariis, dicat quilibet Orationem Dominicam, non omittendo salutarem Mariam.

Ascendit de deserto deliciis affluens—ubi supra Dominus Hugo exponens illud Divi Dionysii de celesti Ierarchiâ “non solum in superpositis et subiectis animis; sed equè potentibus ipsa lex definitur” dicit quodd in superioribus et inferioribus et in paribus Angelis et hominibus ita constituta est lex, ut qui minores sunt, minores illuminent, cum alia sit dignitas superpositorum, alia mediorum, alia subjeotorum; sic alia virtus est primorum, alia mediocrium, alia ultimorum. Primi ceteris provident, medii in equalibus concordiam retinent, inferiores superiores imitantur et cum eis copulam tenent, videlicet, inferioribus spiritibus querentibus. “Quis est, &c.” qui ascendit de Edom, tinctis vestibus de Bosra: iste formosus in stolâ suâ:” sic in mirificâ et glorificâ

\* Goliardus, a Buffoon, a Juggler—see Spelman’s Glossary.

† Comatula—a silly coxcomb.

hodiè assumptione, questioni non ignorancium sive admirantium petentium, Canticorum VI<sup>o</sup>. capitulo. "Que est ista, que progreditur quasi aurora consurgens, pulchra ut luna, electa ut sol, terribilis ut castorum acies ordinata?" respondetur per Thematidis verba, cujus sensus planus est cunctis Christicis, quod "Ascendit de deserto deliciis affluens." In quibus verbis tria se offerunt elucidanda, videlicet, puritatis virginalis, decens sublimacio, vanitatis mundialis potens superacio, sanctitatis internalis fervens jucundatio. *Primum ibi, ascendit: Secundum ibi, de deserto: Tertium ibi, deliciis affluens:* decens sublimacio puritatis notatur in verbo *ascendit*, quia ascendit *speciosè*, infima calcando—ascendit *studiosè* media reformando et ascendit *gloriosè*, summa transvolando. Incombustus rubus erat ratione ignee puritatis—erat vellus Gedeonis ratione sacrate secunditatis et erat vellus aureum Jasonis ratione nobilissime sue radiose claritatis. Qui ideo proterve opinione reproba intuuntur fuscare ejus Conceptionem, ora sua compescant, et qui intuuntur maculare ejus conversationem obmutescant et qui nolunt ejus Assumptionis exitum exaltare, perpetuo delitescant. Virginea ejus puritas primè transparens et summè diaphona, pulcritudinem excedit omnium rerum terrenarum merito in Loco hodiè reponitur ubi est "Species et gloria stellarum" Ecclesiastici. (43c. 100) In quibus verbis notantur tria—Doctor supremus cunctorum, sic et amenus—*Species celi*—Finis serenus quem querit quisque terrenus—*gloria*.—Celorum decus Rex Regum lumine cecus—*stellarum*. Ex primo progreditur omnis pulcritudo—in secundo cernitur omnis quietudo; ex tertio, promittitur potentie plenitudo. Primum probatur ex Lactantio lib. II,\* ubi sic. "Terram stabili fundamento suspendit, qui celum distinxit astris fulgentibus in argumentum unice majestatis qui *posset* extendere campos, subsidere valles, fronde tegi silvas, lapidosos surgere montes" Hinc ordine condidit creaturas, dum cuncta in partibus disposuit in maximo ordine et mensurâ, ut et celam choruscans, astra fulgencia;

\* See, de Origine Erroris, Lib. 2. c. 5.

† In the edited copies it is *jussit*.

terra fructificans, immensa maria; pisces et volucres; homines et pecudes universâ pulcritudine; hoc ordine trino collocantur. Est igitur hic ternaria omnium species; ut dicit Doctor deificus super Genesim (S. Augustinus) "Hec omnia sunt Deus, qui sibi quidem mensurâ omnem rei modum prefigit; sibi quod mundus omni rei potestate probatur, et ut pondus omnem rem ad quietem et stabilitatem trahit." Hec ille Pater. Etenim quod in creaturis suis Deus cernitur mentali oculo, dum hic percipitur species celi, astrorum decus dignè extollitur, eorum dignitas cunctis diffunditur, dum species celi sit in visionis gloria—supple.—*Stellarum*—fit species celi amabilis lux et laudabilis orbis amenus, sit gloria vite regnabilis, status amabilis propter quam cuncta fit stellarum virtus durabilis et gubernabilis creaturarum, dum *species celi* fit *gloria Stellarum*. Sic probatur primum. Secundo Locus hodiè assumpte Virginis est finis serenus quem quærit quisque terrenus. Philosophorum et Ethicorum probatio, quod necesse est aliquem finem esse rerum humanarum, viz. immortalitas et eternitas. Ad quam Nostra, auctoritate Divinâ merito assumitur per Apostolum ad Romanos (2<sup>o</sup> cap. v. 10) "Gloria, honor et pax omni operanti bonum." Internum commercium procul excluditur eternale premium dum bonis promittitur: gloria, honor et pax secundum conditionem cunctis exponitur, dum Sanctis solum conceditur quod operanti bonum, gloria memorata est finis creaturæ; pro quâ consequendâ, vos Presbyteros hortor intensissimè, districtos et penales Religionis ritus animosâ dispensatione recipere et cuncta immortalitate gloriæ recusare, exemplis eorum quos Pater vester Beatus Augustinus recitat\* *de Civitate*, qui pro re parvâ et civitatum terrenarum pace tenerrimè dilectos occidebant ut Bricius† et Torquatus proprios fratres‡ interimebant: sic Mutius§ manum in ardentem aram immittendo combusserat, ut ecclesias ab hostibus

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\* Sabaudî in libro.

† Lege Brutus.

‡ Lege filios.

§ Adde Scavola.

teretur—sic\* Quirinus armatus equo concito in abruptum terre hiatum se dedit precipitem Deorum suorum oraculis serviens; quanto nos pro immarcescibili gloriâ pro quâ Ecclesiastici (cap. 43. 13. v.) “Ecce Deus gyravit celum per circuitum glorie sue;” etc. intemperata potestas mirabilis reperitur quod gyravit celum per circuitum, cujus jucunda influentia celestibus largitur, quum gyravit celum per circuitum glorie sue: sic decor celestis sanctos glorificat et tanquam sidera in celo collocat. Ex quibus probatur, quod ornamentum superiorum et fulcimentum inferiorum norma et virtus omnium *Sic species celi*. Consolamen viatorum, vita civium superiorum—fit in gloria et que rigant rore, yma rerum in nitore, ornat celum cum splendore, luminum sunt *stelle*: sic habetur secundum. Tertio, dixi, quod celorum decus Rex regit lumine cæcus scilicet, *stellarum*. Dicunt enim Bartholomeus et Beda de naturis, quedam stelle errant per orbis distincte et virtute elementorum et mixtorum sunt luminaria cuncta que gubernant: per quas septem, septenarium intelligo Beatorum qui sunt, Patriarche, Prophete, Apostoli, Evangeliste, Martyres, Confessores et Virgines benedictæ, qui radiantibus choruscationibus charismatum Spiritûs Sancti diversis oracionum influentiis Christicolis subveniunt universis quorum precipua, Beata hodiè assumpta gloriose coronata secundum illud, Apocalypsis duodecimo “In capite ejus corona duodecim stellarum” meritis Apostolorum quos fide eclipsatos illustravit. Sic Salomonis verbo Sapientie quarto (v. 2.) “imperpetuum coronata triumphat.” In quibus verbis relucet Virginis gloriose ad celos exaltate, Primacionis excellentia, *ibi coronata*:—Matris graciöse stellarum gloriâ decorate exultationis preeminencia—*triumphat*—et dotis sibi presiose collate sibi pro durationis indeficienciâ, *ibi imperpetuum*. Pro primo effulsit splendor sine nube obumbrante, induens vestem nupcialem—pro secundo, processit puriter sine labe maculante accipiens palmam triumphalem—

\* Lige Marcus Curtius. The careful reader will observe many other mistakes, and some omissions of Members of a Sentence. But whilst he makes allowances for the carelessness of Lacy's Secretary, he cannot excuse the Bishop for sacrificing sense to sound, and debasing the Dignity of the Pulpit.



protectio concedit nobiliter sine tæbe mortificante habens stolam eternalem. Sic habito pro certo, quod nil contraxit de mundi deserto in viciis; "Ascendit de deserto affluens deliciis," quod erat thema.

Set pro morali sensu, Fratres, sic consimiliter agatis, ad vos dirigendo sermonem, consulendo moneo, ut ad virtutum montem celeriter ascendatis, ut in presenti gratie et expectationis glorie (statu) deliciis affluatis secundum verbum Thematis. Notate quod dixi *deserto*, quod duo sunt in Scripturâ, scilicet, infernus mundus, status Penitentiae et Paradisus glorie.\* De primo Ezechielis XXIXo. (v. 5o) "Projiciam te in desertum." De secundo "Vox clamantis in Deserto" Johannis 1o (v. 23o) De tertio Jeremie 11o (v. 2o) "Secuta es me in deserto:" hoc est penitentiae statu amaro. De quarto, Luce (15 cap. 4 v.) "Quis est homo qui habet centum oves, &c. &c." Primum est exhorrendum quod plenum horroris—secundum est aprenendum quod plenum erroris—per tertium est ambulandum, quod includit dolorem—ad quartum est accelerandum quod promittit dulcorem. Beata enim Virgo erat in desertum horrens, —secundum contempnens—tertium tenuit et ad quartum anelavit. Vos, Patres, primum horrete a periculis: secundo scandite, ut sicut in Israelitarum itinere quod genus serpentum occurrit, ita in mundi nostre viacionis deserto et aspīs voluptate, que facie blanditur sed caude finis amarissimè percutit. Tertio Serpens vane glorie, qui in pulvere absconditur et se ibi

Quartus est Scorpionisque invidia et ira: perniciosissime pungit et occidit et quod hec in latebris hujus umbrosi deserti absconditur, in nostre perigrinacionis viâ lucernas vestras accendite, ut caveant homines à negotio perambulante in tenebris et tetrīs demonibus. Luceat lux vestra coram hominibus, videlicet quanto in quibus verbis. Ecce actus splendoris, luceat forma decoris—*Lux vestra*: et ecce fama vigoris, *coram hominibus* quod subtiliter operatur est *lux*, quod utiliter derivatur ut *luceat* et quod visibiliter presentatur *coram hominibus*; vel sic, quod formidantem letificat, est *Lux vera*, et quod ignorantem letificat est *ut luceat coram*

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\* There is evidently an hiatus in this sentence of sentences!

***hominibus.*** Sic sermonum confortacionibus luceat  
lux vestra coram hominibus, sic cherubicè ascen-  
dere, sic ceraphice Bonorum deliciis in Patriâ af-  
fluere, vobis concedat precibus Alme sue Matris,  
Christus, qui sine fine vivit et regnat. Amen.

Referable to p. 113.

***Bond from the Canonesses and Convent of  
Canonsleigh, to the Dean and Chapter of  
Exeter, for the Payment to them of a per-  
petual Yearly Pension of Four Marks, out  
of the Goods of the Church of Dunsford.\****

Noverint universi Presentes Literas de Legh Canoniarum, Exoniensis Diocesis Loci et Conventus inspecturi Tenemur et effectualiter obligamur Reverendis Viris Dominis Decano et Capitulo Exonie, ex Canonica Impositione et constitutione Venerabilis Patris Domini Walteri Dei gratia Exonie Episcopi, loci Dyocesan, &c. consensu Capituli sui predicti et nostrum super hac conventionem facta, in quadam annua Pensione et perpetua IV Marcarum de Bonis nostris Ecclesie de Dunsford ejusdem et Exoniensis dicte Ecclesie nobis Canonice appropriate, solvenda dictis Decano et Capitulo in Scaccario eorum Exonie annis singulis in Festo Inventionis Sancte Crucis absque more dispendio longiore. Ad quam quidem solutionem solvendam, obligamus nos et omnia Bona nostre Ecclesie Mundana coercionem et districti cuiuscunque Judicii Ecclesiastici vel Secularis, quem dicti Decanus et Capitulum super hoc duxerint eligendum, ut ipsi nos per quamcumque coercionem seu districti Ecclesiasticam vel Mundanam possint distringere et coercere ad solutionem plenariam dicte Pensionis, quoadusque opus fuerit pro sue beneplacito voluntatis. In cujus rei testimonium, &c. &c. Datum apud Legh Canoniarum VIIIo. die mensis Aprilis, A. D. MCCCXIV.

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\* E Collect. MSS. Joannis Jones, de Franklyn, Arm.

† Bp. Walter Stapeldon.

Referable to p. 113.

E Regist Quivil, fo. 129.\*

*Acknowledgement, by Bp. Quivil, of the Deposit with him, by Lady Matilda de Clare, Countess of Gloucester and Hertford, of 600 Marks, for the Work and Use of Canonsleigh Abbey, in 1285.*

OMNIBUS presentes Literas inspecturis PETRUS miseratione Divinâ Exonie Episcopus, salutem in Domino sempiternam. Noveritis quod nos Septimo Kal. Septembris Anno Domini MCCLXXXV in Capitulo nostro Recepimus à nobili muliere Dominâ Matildâ de Clarâ, Gloucest. et Hertford. Comitissâ, per manus Domini Roberti de Rachingtone Militis, Religiosi Viri Fratris Walteri de la Yore, Monachi Cisterciensis Ordinis et Gilberti de Wycombe, Presbyteri, Sexcentas Marcas honorum et legalium sterlingorum in Deposito conservandas, prout in instrumento publico inter nos Petrum Exonie Episcopum et dictam Dominam Comitissam super hoc confectum plenius continetur, in Opus et Utilitatem Abbathie de Lyghe, Exonie Dioc. salvò constituendas et restituendas prefate Domine Comitisse et Abbatisse Abbathie predicte simul dictâ Comitissâ vivente; post mortem verò ejusdem Comitisse, Abbatisse predicte et ejusdem loci Conventui tantum, et non alie vel aliis sine morâ et dilacione aliquâ infra ..... postquam per dictam Comitissam et Abbatisam vel earum alteram, vel per legitimos Attornatos ipsarum vel earum alterius, ad hoc legitime constitutos, fuerimus requisiti, quociescumque et quandocumque nobis fides facta fuerit, quod ad Opus et Utilitatem prefate Abbathie per dictam Comitissam, est Abbatisam, terra

\* The whole of this Register is written in a very small character, and with the palest ink, to restore which, some officious Person has had recourse to a Solution of Galls, and has greatly defaced the MS.

vel redditus fuerint comparati: tunc videlicet, pro  
 rata emptionis facte restituatur pecunia in toto vel in  
 parte personis predictis, sicut superius est expressum.  
 Volentes et expressè consentientes pro nobis et se-  
 neschalibus nostris qui pro tempore fuerint, quòd ad  
 receptionem, custodiam et restitutionem dicte pe-  
 cunie, modo et condicionibus supradictis tenere ....  
 ..... nomine nostro deputamus. Quòd si per in-  
 curiam, maliciam, vel negligenciam in restituendâ  
 dictâ pecuniâ, in toto vel in parte, ut premittur, ali-  
 quid difficultatis emergerit, pretextu, cujus, dicta  
 Abbathia in emptionibus suis jacturam incurrerit vel  
 gravamen, Nos dampna et gravamina omnia pro-  
 venientia dicte Abbathie, ex hac causâ, teneamur  
 plenariè resarcire et hoc postquam super emptione  
 terre vel reddituum, fides facta fuerit ut est dictum.  
 In cujus rei testimonium sigilla nostra presentibus  
 sunt appensa. Datum Exonie die, loco et annò su-  
 pradietis.

Referable to p. 115.

***Lease from King Henry VIII. to Thomas de Soulemont, Gent. of the Abbey of Canonleigh, and some of its Possessions.\****

Hæc Indentura facta inter Excellentissimum Principem et Dominum, Dominum Henricum VIII. Dei Graciâ, &c. &c. ex unâ parte, et Thomam de Soulemont, de London, Generosum, ex alterâ parte, Testatur quòd idem Dominus Rex, et per advisamentum Concilii Cariæ Augmentacionum, &c. tradidit, concessit et ad firmam dimisit, præfato Thomæ, Domum et Scitum nuper Monasterii de Canonlegh, in Comitatu Devonîæ, modò dissoluti, unâcum omnibus domibus, edificiis, stabulis, horreis, columbariis, molendinis, hortis, pomariis, gardinis, aquis, cursibus aquarum, stagnis, vivariis, terris et solo, et aliis commoditatibus, quibuscumque, infra precinctum, et scitum ejusdem nuper Monasterii existentibus, Necnon omnia illa Terras, Prata, Pascua et Pasturas, Jampna et Brueras, vocata Knolland, Pynkehyll, Golemore, Selham, (Pyland, Ayber, Estbroke, Myddel Estbroke, Furlong, Longleigh, Marell Parke, Close Furlong Mede, Pole Mede, Posterne Mede, Pyland Mede, Marlemede, Shorthela, Walleys, Lowdons Crofte, Sowdon,†) Pynslade et Somersheppen, cum pertinentiis, in Comitatu Devonîæ et Somersetæ, Ac omnia illa Terras, Prata, Pascua et Pasturas, vocatas Cowtleshyll, Yerlde, Stylesland, Brode Parke, Glasteyard, cum suis pertinentiis, parcelas Manerii de Hockeford, in dicto Comitatu Devonîæ, Unâcum omnibus Grangiis, communiis, jampnis, brueris, commoditatibus, emolumentis quibuscumque, præmissis seu alicui inde parcelle quoquo modo spectantibus vel pertinentibus, Quæ omnia et singula præmissa specificata, in omnibus culturis et occupatione

\* E Collectt, MSS. Joannis Jones, de Franklyn, Arm.

† The Names included in the parenthesis are wanting in another copy of this Grant, in the same Collections.

propria nuper Abbatisse dicti nuper Monasterii, ad Usus Hospitii sui, ante dissolutionem ejusdem nuper Monasterii, usualiter reservata et occupata fuerunt, Tradidit, etiam dictus Dominus Rex, per advisamentum Concilii prædicti, et ad firmam dimisit, præfato Thomæ de Soulemont, Decimas Garbarum, Rectorias Ecclesie Parochialis de Hookeford, ac Ecclesie de Burlescombe, in dicto Comitatu Devonie, Exceptis tamen, et dicto Domino Regi et Successoribus suis omnino reservatis, omnibus grossis arboribus et hœcis, de et super præmissis crescentibus et existentibus, Ac omnibus talibus et hujusmodi edificiis, infra prædictum dicti nuper Monasterii, quæ dictus Dominus Rex ibidem prosterni et auferri mandavit, Et Advocacionibus Vicariarum Ecclesiarum prædictarum. **HABENDUM** et tenendum Scitum et Prædictum dicti nuper Monasterii ac prædictas Terras, Prata, Pascuas, Communias Pasturæ, Decimas, et cetera omnia et singula præmissa, superius specificata, præfato Thomæ de Soulemont et Assignatis suis à Festo Sancti Michaelis Archangeli ultimo præterito, usque ad finem termini XXI. annorum extunc proximo sequencium, et plenariè complendorum. **REDDENDO** annuatim dicto Domino Regi, Heredibus et Successoribus suis, XXIII Libras, XIII Solidos et II Denarios Sterlingorum, videlicet, pro dicto Scitu dicti nuper Monasterii ac prædictis terris, grangis, pratis, pascuis, communibus pasturæ et ceteris præmissis, præter Rectorias et Decimas prædictas, £XVI. XIII. II. Et pro prædictis Decimis dictæ Rectoriæ de Hokeford LX Solidos, Et pro prædictis decimis Rectoriæ de Burlescomb £III. Ad Festa Annunciacionis Beatæ Mariæ Virginis et Sancti Michaelis Archangeli, vel infra nnum mensem post utrumque Festum, ad Curiam prædictam, per equales portiones solvendos, durante termino prædicto, Et prædictus Dominus Rex vult, et per præsentem concedit, quod Ipse, Hæredes et Successores sui, dictum Thomam de Soulemont et assignatos suos de omnibus redditibus, pensionibus, portionibus, feodis, annuitatibus, denariorum Summis quibuscumque, de præmissis, seu de aliquâ inde parcellâ, exantibus sive solvendis, præterquam de redditu superius specificato, Ac præterquam de

V Solidis et lX denariis solvendis Archidiacono de  
 Exon, pro Synodaticis et Procuracionibus dictæ  
 Rectoriæ de Hockford, versus quascunque per-  
 sonas, de tempore in tempus, exonerabunt, &c.  
 reparacionem maremium semper ad onus Domini  
 Regis durante termino prædicto. Et prædictus  
 Thomas concedit per præsentis quod ipse annuatim  
 solvet Archidiacono Vs. lXd. omnes reparaciones,  
 præterquam maremium tantum, ad onus dicti Thomæ  
 Soulemont. Et prædictus Dominus Rex vult, et per  
 præsentis concedit, quod dictus Thomas habeat suffi-  
 cientem heybote, fyrebot, plotighbot, cartebote,  
 ibidem et non alibi, annuatim, durante termino præ-  
 dicto. In cujus rei testimonium, &c. Datum apud  
 Westmonasterium XXX. die Decembris, anno Regni  
 Regis Henrici VIII. 31<sup>o</sup>.



*Collection of Records, No. LXXIX. at the End of  
2. Collier's Eccles. Hist. p. 91.*

*An Information made to QUEEN ELIZABETH, by  
—— of the several Abuses and Frauds done  
unto the State in general, and the Crown, by such  
as have been employ'd by her Father, &c. upon the  
Suppression of the Abbeyes, &c. written circ. A. D.  
1559.*

Part of the corrupt frandulent and deceitful dealing  
of many subjects of this realm, *at and since* the sup-  
pression and visitation of Abbeyes, whereby the posses-  
sions, revenues, and treasure of the Crown have been  
immeasurably rob'd and diminish'd, to the great of-  
fence of God, and slander of the Gospel, and to the  
no small impoverishing and weakning of the imperial  
Crown, and utter undoing of a number of your Ma-  
jesties poor tenants and subjects. And so to the great  
slander of your Majesty, and withdrawing of their  
hearts from you, (whose act it is told them to be, and  
so to them it seemeth, because some of your seals be  
at all or most part of them, and the confirmation of  
your head officers at the rest) and to the utter spoiling  
and undoing of a number of learned persons and  
excellent wits, who understanding that many  
before them have been thereby greatly enrich'd, and  
advanc'd: And that the gap thereunto, as unto a  
virtue, was made wide open for all, without any  
punishment, but rather commendations, were and  
are still the easilier overcome by temptation of the  
wisdom of *Satan*, the world, and the flesh, to seek  
and labor to become rich by like wicked wayes; of  
whom, as the number is now of late years greatly in-  
creas'd, so also deceive they more subtilly and de-  
testably, and in more things than ever before.

And here, after some farther length of invective,  
he proceeds to instance in the Reign of King *Henry*  
the VIIIth the contents of which are.

*Deceitful and unrighteous dealings at and upon  
the visitation and suppression of Abbeyes, &c.*

F. Where the images of gold and silver, and what with the costly shrines, tabernacles, altars, and rood-lofts, and the precious jewels of right stones, and pearls, &c. belonging to the same, and the pixes, chalices, pattens, basons, ewers, candlesticks, eruets, censors, and multitudes of other rich vessels of gold and silver: and the costly altar clothes, curtains, copes, vestments, aulbs, tunicles and other rich ornaments: and the fine linnen, jett marble, and precious wood, brass, iron, lead, bells, stone, &c. And the household plate, household stuff, and furniture of household, and the leases and chattells, and the horses, oxen, kine, sheep, and other cattle, and the superfluous houses and buildings, and multitudes of other things that belong to the Abbeyes, were worth a million of gold.

The sales of the part whereof were so cunningly made, and the preservation of the rest was such, that Your Majesties Father and the Crown of England had, in comparison, but mean portions of the same: of which much was unpay'd by ill dealing many years after: for the finding out of which, and punishing the great deceit and fraud, there was not then, neither hath there been at any time since (for the like evils afterwards also committed to this day) any good order or diligent labor taken, but let pass, as tho' to find out and punish such wickedness were no profit to the Prince and Crown, or good service to God. All which have been the easilier let slip, because perhaps some of them that should have (been) punish'd under the Prince, might also be partly guilty.

2. *Item*, Whereas diverse of the visitors and suppressors, had afterwards yearly allowance of fees, annuities, coronies, &c. granted by the Abbies to themselves, their servants and friends; was it likely that they came by them without fraud?

3. The most part of the evidencies of Abbies and Nunneries were pilfer'd away, sold and lost, as herein following under the title of your Majesties time more plainly appears.

4. Mannors, lands, and tenements, and other hereditaments were often sold at under yearly rents by many subtle deceits and frauds.

5. Many lands and tenements, &c. were sometime sold with the appurtenances at the old yearly rents. But where the woods were undervalued, as often they were, the same went from the King without recompence.

6. Mannors, lands and tenements, &c. sold to diverse: And after the woods were fell'd and sold, and the rents enhanc'd, or for great fines leas'd out for many years, then the same mannors were return'd to the King in exchange for other lands, that had plenty of woods, and were unenhanc'd and unleas'd in all or in part; or the leases were near expired.

7. Much lands and tenements, and many great woods and other hereditaments were then sold away, where the money for the same was not paid many years after the due time of payment.

*Deceits in the Reign of KING EDWARD THE SIXTH, your Majesties Brother.*

Exchanges more than in King *Henry's* time, and almost as bad, whereby the rents of many of them must needs decay in a great part, when that leases shall end, that were made by the exchangers, or when the bonds made to warrant these rents; shall either be lost, forgotten, or not extended.

Much land sold at undervalues by great deceit of many:

*Deceit in the short time of the Reign of QUEEN MARY, your Majesties Sister.*

Many great gifts, sales and exchanges were then; wherein was great deceit and loss to the Crown.

*Deceit in your Majesties time.*

All or greatest part of the evidences of the lands; possessions, and hereditaments of all the Abbies, &c.; have by little and little by fraudulent means been so pilfer'd and sold away, and so drawn into many private men's hands; that there's almost none of them left to your Majesties use; so that your Majesty hath nothing to maintain your title, if need so require; but only your long possession and your own records made since the suppression, whereof a number of them be gone; *ut patet inferius*:

And where some men have bought only the demesnes of a manor, and have so prevail'd by corrupt means, that the auditor has put thereto in his

particular thereof, *NOMEN MANNERIT*; or else if the penners of the letters patents for that purchase have corruptly put it into the draught or transcript, and the peruser overpass it, either by too much confidence in the penner, or for lack of time by so slight conferring of the particular and transcript, suffer'd such a scape; And so if the same have pass'd under the great seal, then is there no remedy, but he must have and enjoy the whole manner, tho' afterwards it appear never so plainly that he purchased only a part thereof. Such be the laws and statutes they say, neither has there been (that ever I could know or hear of) any diligent inquiry made, or labour taken to find out by whose corruption it came, and to punish the purchaser and all his corrupt instruments, as the wickedness of the act did deserve. And so as all others might by their punishment be terrified from that ill kind, and innumerable other kinds of like corrupted dealing.

Likewise of conceal'd lands whatsoever found out and certified by commission out of the *exchequer*, if the commissioners, through friendship or corruption, have found out a *manner*, or other lands to be worth yearly five shillings; whereas the old yearly rent of the same was no less than twenty pounds by year: and thereupon if the procurer of the commission obtain it by lease or purchase at five shillings by year, your Majesty has no remedy, but he must enjoy it *causa predicta*, notwithstanding the truth thereof do afterwards never so plainly appear.

And also of many other things, both of lands, goods and woods, debts and other things answerable in your Majesties Court of *Exchequer*, within the accompts of your Highness' Sheriffs, Escheators, and other Officers and other persons authoriz'd to take the same to your Majesties use, if they find out and seize any manors, lands, hereditaments, goods, &c. at a far under rate, tho' it be never so plainly known, they are not blam'd and punish'd for it; no some will say the officers would never be sued for a *pitiful hearing*.

Stately manors, and mean manors, with the parks and woods have been sold given, and other

wise granted, where the parks have pass'd at no rent, and the woods at no value, a very little in comparison, yea and some mannors, &c. where diverse fees of the keepers of the park, of the houses, &c., have been deducted, so that the values at which the said mannors have pass'd, have been a great deal less than they ought to have been.

*Item,* Diverse of the copyholders both of your stately and mean mannors, which is your best and richest lands, for their small rent be sometimes purchased, sometimes granted in fee-farm, and sometimes leas'd out, whereby the mannors be dismembred, your tenants taken from you and impoverish'd, and your commons much griev'd and provoked to murmur, when they see copyhold tenure (the good ancient tenure of England) whereby the most of them hold, and ever have held their lands and livings, to be (now a days) made void and of none effect.

*Item,* Perquisites and profits of the courts of diverse of your Majesties mannors be leas'd out and some sold away, whereby also the mannors be dismembered, the tenants and their services had from your Majesty. A matter of great weight.

*Item,* The profits of the courts of many of the mannors that remain in your Majesty be yearly ill-answer'd, and sometimes partly pilfer'd away, and the easilier because the stewards deliver not up yearly *doubles* of their court rolls, as by good order they should doe and because deceit is not sought out and punished.

*Item,* Many of your Majesties rich woods, with the soils, both notable great and stately, and also both mean and small, some lying and being within the forrests, chases, parkes, commons, &c. and other some within the late demesnes, or proper Occupation of Abbots, Priors, Nuns, &c. or of other former owners of castles, honours, lordships, mannors, lands, tenements, and hereditaments,\* common to your Majesties ancestors and to yourself, which never yielded any yearly rent, except some

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\* He means most probably the Honours, Castles, Lordships, &c. taken from the Bishops' Sees, and vested in the Crown by an Act of Parliament, made in the first Year of this Queen's reign.

trifle for the herbage or pawnage, being kept for royal and stately pleasure, and common and domestical profit, have been sold away for little or nothing in comparison, and some part of them letten out to no common benefit or particular profit for your Majesty, because the rents be small, and the woods are suffer'd to be spoil'd, *ut patet inferius*.

After recital of several other frauds too long to mention, he draws towards a conclusion in this manner. Your Majesty, says he, would wonder if you knew how much I have been malign'd reproach'd, brow-beaten, and pursued with ill offices for my plainness against this mismanagement. At which your Majesty may be the more surpriz'd, because some of'em bear great shew and name of good men, and GOSPELLERS: but alas piteous ones, God amend them, and us all.

He that gave in this information owns himself a professor of the *Gospel*, that is a Protestant, and that he was in a post of authority: And since he brings in so high a charge against the courtiers and officers of the CROWN, the reader needs not be surprized to find his name conceal'd.

**FINIS.**



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## ERRATA.

- P. 47, l. 4, for nineteen, read twenty.  
P. 52, last line, for excepta, read recepta.  
P. 110, l. 14, read, do me lesse.  
P. 115, l. 7, for Gorieumont, read Soulemont.  
P. 117, l. 22, for coecacon, read coicacon.  
Appendix, p. v. l. 10, for Clyst, read Clyff.  
Isabella de Brent, occurs as Prioress of *Polslo*, A. D. 1256, in the  
Taxation of Halberton, prefixed to Bishop Bronescombe's Register,  
and should stand first in the list in p. 17, ante.

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